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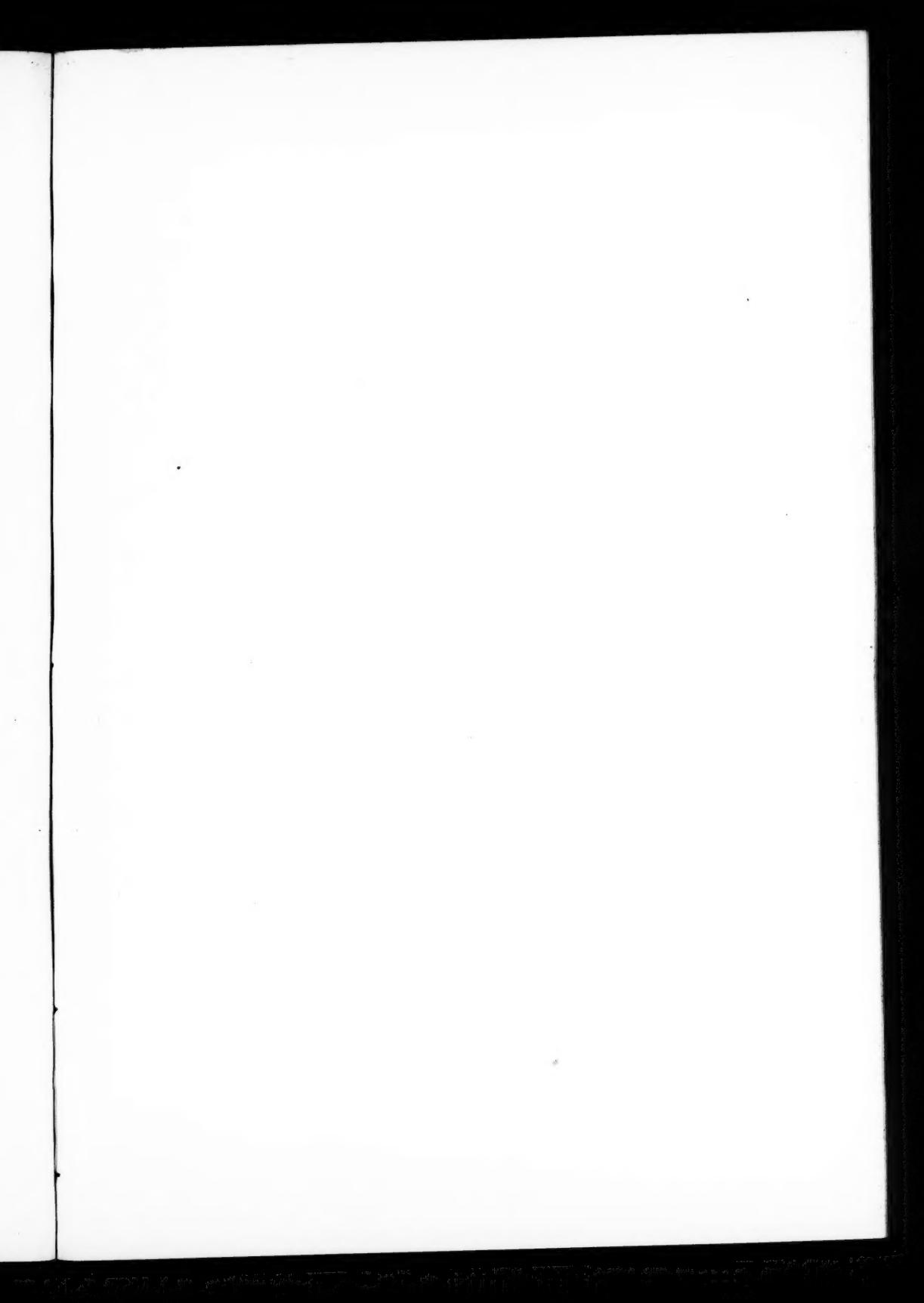
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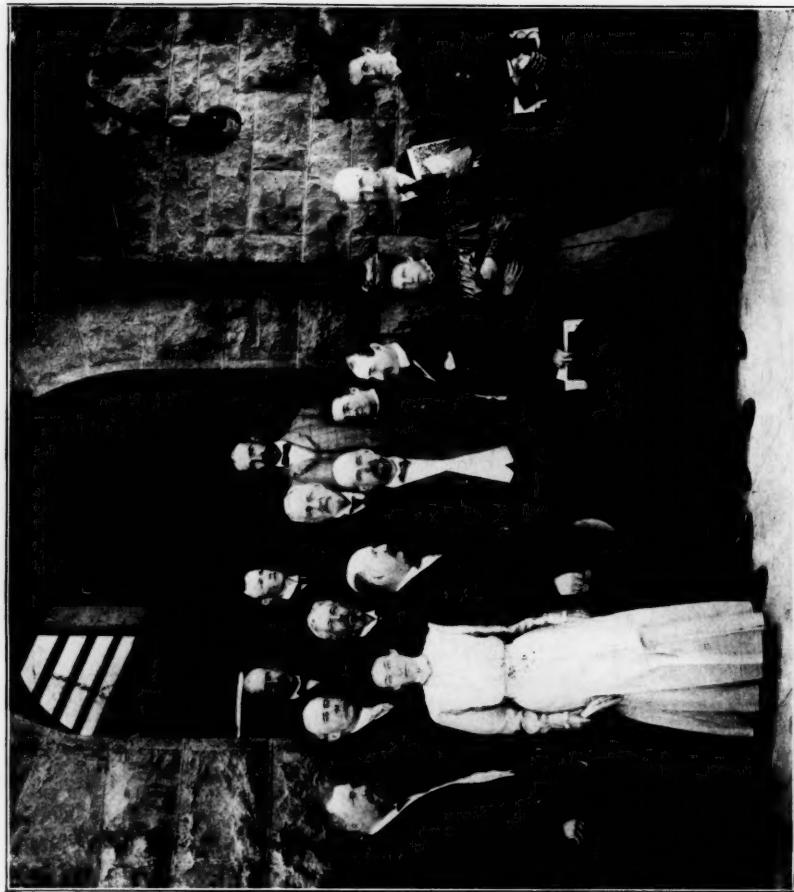
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What Children Do Read and What They Ought To Read*

Dr G. Stanley Hall, Clark University, Wooster, Mass.

Reading is the food of the mind and those who fatten upon the modern novel, with its highly artificial and conventional treatment of anti-nuptial love, often treated in a somewhat risqué manner, can not possibly know life, and the standpoint of romance and of actual practice are very happily now diverging. For five or six years I have spent much time in finding out and in hasty perusal of scores of the most popular books of this class. The sentiment is often mawkish, sometimes actually perverted, the situations very remote from real life or history, and now that we have the rudiments of a real psychology of the tender sentiment, the indictments against the modern novelist are increasingly grave. There are happily however, faint signs—alas, too faint—of a new dispensation in this respect, and there are already a few healthy girls who can read good things, even though they are not the very latest products of the press.

This applies largely to the reading of those in the later school age, or already past it, but the infection is descending the grades through the high school even into the grammar school. For a girl in the early teens to be a passionate reader of what passes for the best of the popular novels is, I believe, calamitous for the

development of the heart and the sentiment which are the essential things in life. All this the healthy boy utterly eschewes at this age as something essentially unfit. The excuse is often made that there is some dearth of the right literature for girls. Many censuses lately made of the reading of this class of people shows that they take very kindly to books meant for boys, and are in danger of accepting for themselves thereby, and all unconsciously, male ideals, and sometimes even wishing that they had been born boys. This, however, is far better in my judgment than the gushy love-story of the modern purveyor. The danger, however, is very great that the modern school girl will early in life acquire false views of it, will make excessive and impossible demands upon it, which will cloud her life with discontent in the future. Indeed, there is a sense in which we may say there is something wrong about a girl in the teens who is a gormandizer of books, not only of this objectionable class, but of any kind. Even tales like Alice in Wonderland and the Water babies are a good ways from the ideal, although far above the common actuality.

When we turn to the reading of boys the case is very different. They love books with more blood, action, adventure and practical life in them. Girls rarely read books calculated to fit them for domestic life or womanly vocations of any kind. Boys do so far more often at the same age. Statistics show that the average boy reads less literature

*Read before Library department of N. E. A., July 7, 1905.

idealizing crime than is sometimes supposed, or than he did a decade or two ago, and even this vicious mental diet produces a harmful effect that is more effeminate in its effects than the gushy, mushy things girls suffer from. Both sexes have a period in the earlier or perhaps the middle teens when they are fascinated with reading—a kind of craze or intoxication of trying their wings in the great field of literature, to know what the great world is about in the pin-feather stage, just before they are ready to launch out upon it. The arduous work of the high school, as we know, distinctly tends to check this passion; sometimes doubtless for good and sometimes otherwise. The dangers are great, and, I think, coming to be adequately and truly recognized, so that I will not dwell upon them but proceed to attempt to answer the great question, What should our young people read?

First, they ought to be acquainted with the story roots and leading motives of all the greatest and best literature in the world. I believe profoundly in résumés and epitomes; no literature is so classic in form that it should not be freely sacrificed to its contents. The Greek grammars, Homer select tales from Thucydides, Herodotus, the Neibe-lungen, Arthuriad, Dante, Shakespeare and just a few score others would include all I mean. The modern school ought to hold itself really culpable if children are allowed to satisfy the law's required attendance without knowing something of these great moralizing powers in the world. They present every chief type of character and every great generic ethical situation in life and thus inoculate the soul against temptation and in its stress and strain perform right choices. Happily, we now have a choice little body of literature that attempts just this thing, for nearly all the authors need it, and these should form the staple of school work and of reading outside. The maxim, "art for art's sake" has absolutely no place in education, for there is only one standard of merit in the reading of school children and that is its moral value. The good

book and that with a moral that strikes the child in faith or in deed that is obvious, never produces the deeper effects. These always come by the method of indirection and are subtly insinuated by suggestion. Mr. Bigg says we should have a school Bible made of such material. Again, statistics show a progressive ignorance on the part of American school children of the old and the new Testaments, which are not known enough even for the purposes of intelligent understanding of literary allusions. A Scripture anthology and outlines of sacred history should and will soon be provided to meet this need.

History means story and the young child normally approaches it by the path of narrative and biography. The French have lately shown us how both history and morals can be taught at once in their courses for citizenship and virtue. French history has been ransacked for tales of great deeds and traits calculated to inspire as well as to interest the young, and societies have been formed with medals to inculcate and to reward acts of virtue suggested by this course, which under the lay system of instruction which now prevails there, as it long has done here, lays upon the school the necessity of teaching righteousness independently of religion. The history teacher, even in the high school, is often too universitized in methods and ideals to recognize this need, so that in fact, this great topic, the arsenal of all recorded experience of the race, is treated in a scholastic and unfruitful way by those who have forgotten that the chief object of teaching, not only history but everything else, to the young is to improve and strengthen character, without which mere knowledge is worthless.

Third, girls, and especially boys, ought to read in the field of nature and modern science. Interest normally begins with life, perhaps with primitive man under the simple conditions of savagery, and with animals, but in the middle teens the normal boy has almost passion for frontier questions. He wishes to know about the conditions of the sun, moon, stars, boundaries of space, the nature of

ether, atoms and X-rays, radium, perhaps even the natures of ions, the origin of life, evolution, the latest discoveries in electricity, the wonders of modern machinery, perhaps the way conjurers perform their tricks, the secrets of nature as explored by the microscope, kite, top, battery, retort, etc. There is no ultimate question in which the most expert mind is interested, which the callowist youth of normal parts can not himself glimpse.

Fourth, in our instruction in modern and even in ancient languages we should strive to focus interest essentially upon the subject matter, and here I have a great heresy to propose, viz: that of rapid, cursory reading that is not thorough, that slips the chief difficulties at first, but gives the pupil's mind a constant and dominant interest in story and makes that the motive of learning the vocabulary. All novices should be read with, and no lessons should ever be set in any foreign language at first, and the comments of the teacher should be directed to the historical, moral, scientific contents of the subject matter. I have known university boys to get up a pretty fair knowledge of Italian and Spanish because they had a special interest in matter which could only be found in those languages. Here, too, the principle of content is forever dominant over form and should never be lost sight of. The modern high school boy and girl who have read thoroughly their precious few score or even hundreds of pages of a modern and ancient language according to the prescription, thorough, accurate, leaving nothing unmastered, and with frequent reviews, is, first, learning the language by the most wasteful and uneconomic way, and is therefore liable to cut it dead afterwards, and feels nothing of the inspiration of the literature to which it is sought to give him a key.

Finally, what shall be said of the now hard-worked method of running down all kinds of subjects in a library? Much, I believe, both favorable and unfavorable. The habit of superficial acquaintance with very many subjects for theme writing, debate or pooling in class for the

benefit of others is, I believe, an excellent one. It gives the student the command of the resources of a library and habituates him to make use of it later in life for all kinds of purposes. To have learned that if one wishes to know anything—a process, a political question, something about any aspect of nature, costume, any kind of allusion or even out-of-the-way topic—one can get help from a library, is of itself a precious education. It is often said that the value of schooling, even through college, is best measured by the number and intensity of interests generated and not by the knowledge actually attained, but this is abortive without the habit of feeling, as Emerson says, that if you have the most fleeting interest in anything whatever, you are grieving the Holy Spirit if you do not run to the library with all possible speed to feed that interest before it cools. On the other hand the dangers of the new library work are those of distraction. Pupils who consult shelves for one topic are often led by a more superficial interest to gratify lower tastes. But even here I think good predominates. A Frenchman has said that to love the smell of books is one element of education; to take them in the hand, to glance at the title-page, thumb them through to see the pictures or chapter headings enlarges one's sense of the range of knowledge and gives a wholesome and appetizing sense of ignorance. I plead, therefore, for a recognition of the value of superficiality as one of the goods *per se* in this field—a knowledge that is all extant with not much intensity. This is the form in which all knowledge begins. If it is not respectable then the profession of the librarian itself is not so. I have sometimes almost wondered if there is not a microbe, not yet detected, which may infect the pupil with a slow-burning fever of love of learning which may be taught by merely walking through alcoves, getting a little of the dust of the shelves upon the fingers, clothes and in the nostrils. A German writer, Prof. Jaeger, says that the soul is a smell. Perhaps it is the library smell.

**Library Administration on an Income
of from \$1000 to \$5000 a Year:
Economies in Plans and
Methods**

Marilla Waite Freeman, reference librarian
Louisville (Ky.) public library

The problem in hand, as I understand it, is this: Given a free public library with an annual income of \$1000 or \$3000, or \$5000, as the case may be, how shall that library most economically expend its income for the public service, keeping in view the greatest good of the greatest number, with an eye always to the interests of the exceptional individual. I may remark in passing that to the librarian of the \$1000 a year library, his \$5000 a year brother seems as rich as Croesus and as far removed from his own worrisome problems, but when he moves up to the \$5000 institution himself he finds that the necessities have increased with the income, and that much the same principles apply as to the smaller library.

In planning the campaign of economy, the first necessity is some sort of a yearly budget, and for this I know no more logical division than that under the three heads of maintenance, administration, and growth. Under maintenance are included rent of rooms, or repair of building, heat, light, insurance, janitor service and all supplies. Under administration, or direct service to the public, the chief item is that of salaries of the librarian and assistants. Under growth, the important matter is the purchase and binding of books and periodicals. In the larger libraries, this head would include also the printing of finding lists, book lists and bulletins, but in the small libraries most of this form of library extension must be done through space given in the newspapers and like gratuitous means.

As to the proportion of our fund to be assigned to each of these three heads, maintenance, salaries, and books, it is a bit difficult to reconcile theory and practice. A division into even thirds sounds symmetrical and attractive, but fails utterly to work. A more usual

perhaps quite widely accepted theoretical division, provides one-fourth for books, one-third for salaries, and the remainder for maintenance. But a set of questions sent out last year by the library of which I was then in charge, to a number of representative libraries of all sizes, and a question sent to various libraries during the preparation of this paper, both brought out the fact that in actual practice few libraries are able to adhere to this proportion. As a matter of fact, the figures show our plausible third for salaries expanding to 40 or even 45 per cent, the necessary expenses of maintenance absorbing an almost equally large proportion, and the book fund conducting itself as best it may upon what is left. For the smaller libraries at least, a tentative division of not more than one-fifth for books and say two-fifths each for salaries and maintenance, seems about what our actual experiences make possible. The smaller the library, as a rule, the larger must the salary percentage be. This for the reason that the services of a trained librarian cost much the same in all libraries under a certain size, and therefore draw more heavily upon the fund of the smaller library, and for the second reason that the trained head of the small library must herself, in addition to the formative work for which she is specially engaged, do much of the routine work which in a large staff may be delegated to assistants of a lower grade. Thus the library on an income of \$2000 to \$2500, with a capable head and one assistant, need feel it no extravagance to expend a full half of its yearly fund for salaries.

My argument for this division of funds is of course based upon the supposition that the library is to consider as its first requisite in its plan for economical expenditure, a trained librarian at its head. The seeming discrepancy between book fund and salary fund is based upon the thesis, which ought no longer to need arguing, that a small collection of well chosen books, well administered, is of much greater value to the community than a larger collection poorly admin-

istered. The directions for making a successful library of whatever size should therefore always begin with the proviso: "First catch your trained librarian." In the very smallest libraries of our group, where it may not be possible to retain the trained librarian permanently, she should at least be employed long enough to organize the library upon a proper basis and to give partial training to the local assistant who will succeed her. Otherwise the library is likely to prove a house built upon the sand.

Having set aside our two-fifths, or even a fraction more, for salaries or public service, we shall still have need of all the economies we can practice under this head. The first economic necessity, after a trained executive is assured, is the securing of one or more apprentices, to be in training for assistantships and for substitute work. The length of service required should depend upon the thoroughness of the training which the librarian is able to give, and therefore upon its value to the apprentice. The average apprenticeship covers a period of three to six months, with four to six hours' service a day. It should be thoroughly understood with the apprentice that no promise is made her as to a position in the library, but merely that she puts herself in line for and is willing to accept such a position in case of vacancies or additional appointments. The question has been much discussed whether the service given by apprentices pays for the time spent by the librarian upon their training, but in the case of libraries which can not afford to give their librarians trained assistants, it seems a matter of simple necessity that the librarian have in training a reserve force of this sort, whether large or small, formal or informal. In regard to the question whether this sort of training compensates the apprentice for the time spent, I believe it to be true that in most small or medium-sized library constituencies, such as we are considering, there are high-school graduates who are glad of the additional book knowledge and general information which such a course gives them, aside from the question of

future positions. And I know personally of a number of instances in which such an informal course in a library has proved the necessary stimulus toward the seeking of further education, either in college or library schools or both.

An important economy, especially to the library with few assistants, and these on small salaries, is that of short hours of work and liberal treatment of its staff. A seven-hour day with weekly half-holiday will go far toward compensating for a corresponding brevity of salary, and experience proves that in the long run any institution gets better and more willing service out of people who are not overworked, and who have a margin of time in which to live outside the demands of their daily work.

I know of no greater economy in library administration than that of giving the public free access to the shelves of the library. From the financial point of view it seems clearly proven by cumulative testimony that the small proportion of books lost from open shelves and the additional care required to keep the shelves in order is far outweighed by the saving of the labor necessary in the searching for books by the library attendants, and the carrying them to and from the shelves. The doing away with call-slips and the accompanying machinery is an item not to be overlooked in the petty economies of the small library, but the most important saving involved in the open-shelf system is that of nerves—the nerves alike of the public and of the library worker. The open-shelf idea has been so long discussed, and is now so widely accepted, that we scarcely realize how many attractive Carnegie libraries are being built today with a smug, tight little closed stack-room at the rear, and no provision whatever for a comfortable space where the public may look over its own books. To the librarian who has inherited such a library, we can only suggest that if she can not carve a highway to the book room, she may at least have a book-case containing a few hundred carefully chosen, attractive books, placed within easy reach of the loan desk. She will

find this a very popular expedient and will be saved many steps thereby.

The one article upon which the small library may most wisely economize is tape—red tape. To the public it is as irritating as an unexpected barbed wire fence to a cross-country pedestrian, and to the overworked library attendant it is often as the last straw to the camel's back. Records we must have, and accurate, businesslike methods, but let us have no duplication, let us trust the public as far as the law will allow, and let us simplify everywhere. Begin with the card catalog. We may avail ourselves of the work done by others by buying for our catalog the cards printed by the Library of congress for all new books, at far less cost than we can afford to make them ourselves. In cataloging older books, for which the Library of congress may not yet have printed cards, we need not feel that we must use the same fullness of detail given on the Library of congress cards. Fullness of imprint is often confusing to the untrained eye of the public, and in the small library is not essential to the library assistant, who in the occasional cases where it is necessary to know paging or size may turn readily to the accession book. For fiction there is good authority for the use of author and title only. Such annotations as the contents of a book of short stories are of much more importance than its size. A card headed College and school stories, or Detective stories, giving a list of the books under these heads, is of more practical use than a statement of the number of pages in each book, given upon its main card.

In the matter of book lists, again, the library may often economize by availing itself of the work already done, in place of lists issued by the individual library at great expenditure of time and money.

In the reference department of the small library, all use of call-slips for reference books and statistics of use of reference books and periodicals may well be dispensed with. Of more value than such statistics is a careful jotting down of the various questions asked, and the subjects upon which information is

sought, with a view to supplying deficiencies in the library, and to making note of the material on hand. References found on a given topic should be noted on a catalog card, under the subject, and filed either in the card catalog or in a separate reference index.

Other small working economies of administration are the dispensing with labels and call-numbers for fiction and the dispensing with bookplates for all except reference books.

Under the head of maintenance, the largest item is, of course, the care of the building, and here many libraries find themselves swamped at the outset by a costly building which eats into the year's income until the library itself must well-nigh starve for lack of sustenance. I can only say here to the small library, Do not be in haste to build until you have a good working collection of books thoroughly organized under the supervision of a competent librarian. You will know much better how to build after you have worked in temporary quarters for a time. And when you do build, build from the inside out, if you wish to provide for economy of administration. Keep in mind the unity of the work, and, to quote from one of the letters I have received, "economize on partitions." Have all the main working departments of your library on one floor, where they may, if necessary, be supervised from one central desk, and where your lighting and heating may be economically centralized. Nothing could make a library less attractive than the economy of light and heat often practiced in a building with departments scattered on different floors and much waste of space in corridors and halls.

In towns where the city owns its own water, or light, or heat, or all three, a little foresight at the inception of the library enterprise may secure these commodities without drain upon the library's yearly income. In at least one town in Iowa the free provision of these commodities for the public library was made a condition in the granting of franchises.

A source of economy in library maintenance is the securing of a good jan-

tor. The right man usually comes high, but in the course of the year will save many a bill with the carpenter and the plumber, and with a fair degree of intelligence in the handling and arrangement of the books, may go far toward saving the time of an additional library assistant. In everything which concerns the care of the building and grounds no effort should be spared to make the library a model of cleanliness and beauty for all the city.

It is under our division of growth, which includes chiefly the purchase, binding and rebinding of books and periodicals, that probably the largest saving may be made. A safe rule is that of a librarian who writes, I never buy subscription books except at second-hand, even encyclopedias. As a rule, within a year the subscription work will be on the market either at secondhand, or in a trade edition, and you can buy it for something like half the price you would have paid the agent. It is far better economy to duplicate the masterpieces of fiction to an extent which will really supply the demand for them than to purchase glittering rows of full sets to gather dust upon our shelves.

The new A. L. A. catalog has done great good service in its naming of good trade editions of standard works. The smaller the library the less can it afford to purchase cheap and unattractive editions.

I can not better summarize the economies which may be practiced under our general head of growth, than by quoting from one of the letters which I have recently received. This librarian says: 1) Our pet economies are a) rebinding, where we believe the greatest economy lies in prompt rebinding, b) purchase of books, where we make every effort to make one dollar do the work of two, by secondhand and auction buying and by importation, c) not binding periodicals that are really only of current interest, d) not replacing books that are not really worth while; routine replacement is a common and an enormous waste. 2) We never economize a) by getting cheap people to do high-

grade work, b) by getting cheap books or binding that will not last instead of dearer ones that will, c) by letting re-binding wait.

A word of emphasis as to the economy of prompt rebinding. Up to a certain point of wear, much repairing may economically be done in the library, but as soon as the sewing of a book begins to give way, it should go at once to the binder. A promptly and well re-bound book will wear twice as long as in its original trade binding. Poor binding and cheap binding are always dear in the end. Periodical sets especially, which are among the library's most valuable reference assets, if worth binding at all, are worthy of the best binding.

The sum of the whole matter is something like this: Economize on quantity rather than quality. Have fewer things if necessary in order to have them better—books, assistants, rooms, rules. Make your library attractive and your library helpers happy, thereby using your income in such a way that the city and the city fathers will be inclined to vote you more, for to him that spendeth, boldly but judiciously, more shall be given.

Library Administration on an Income of from \$1000 to \$5000 a Year*

S. H. Ranck, Public library, Grand Rapids, Mich.

To begin with, we must realize the wide difference between "essential," "desirable," and "non-essential." Those things are essential which, when they are omitted, make it impossible for the library to exercise its function; to wit, to spread through the community the knowledge—the experience, real or imaginary—the race has accumulated and has recorded in books—here used to include all printed matter.

The library must first of all live, and that means a *growing* existence. It must therefore have the things that make for life and growth—means of subsistence and intelligent direction; otherwise it will die, or, at least, become devitalized,

*From paper read at Portland meeting of A. L. A.

fossilized. The desirable things are those that assist the library to perform its functions to a wider and better extent, corresponding to the comforts of our family life, carpets on the floors of our homes, modern plumbing, etc. The non-essentials are those which may or may not help in the performance of function to a wider or better extent—corresponding to the luxuries of life, automobiles, horses and carriages in the city, etc. All these things grow into each other, and the non-essentials in one environment may be absolutely essential in another. In this paper it shall be my effort to lay stress on the essentials for the type of library whose annual income is not less than \$1000 or more than \$5000. The desirable and non-essential will rarely be referred to; for it is the essential that we must ever keep in mind. It must also be remembered that these essentials apply in a greater or less degree to all kinds of libraries, whether large or small.

In the public municipal library the first essential in its administration is that those in charge of it should have a full knowledge, and a clear understanding, of the legal rights and duties of the library and its officers. They should know and understand the provisions of the state constitution, the state laws and the city ordinances relating to libraries in general and in particular. This is of fundamental importance to the governing board and to the librarian. I need only refer to the fact that the two relatively large libraries with which I have been connected found it necessary to have the state legislature amend their charters in important particulars, so as to prevent a possible serious loss to these libraries. The importance of these legal details was further impressed upon us in Grand Rapids by the fact that only a little over a month ago our library came near losing almost \$6000 for its book fund—money that comes to it through a provision of the state constitution—because of a clerical omission, in the office of the city board of education, in reporting to the state superintendent of public instruction the num-

ber of children of school age in the city. As it was, legal processes had to be resorted to to protect the library and the matter was straightened out by a special trip to Lansing, and by keeping one of the county offices open after the usual time of closing on the last day of the year when the state constitution permitted a correction of the error.

Another instance of the importance of these legal details is found in the last report of the Michigan state board of library commissioners, according to which, and to a recent remark by the president of that board, it appears that in the state of Michigan at least \$50,000 a year is being diverted from library purposes, as provided for in the state constitution, simply because various library governing boards in the state do not know their legal rights or have refused to exercise them.

A second essential is that the governing board of the library—regardless of whether its members are appointed or elected, whether it contains three members or thirty, or the ideal number of five or seven—and the librarian should have a full understanding of the functions of each, for both have very definite duties to perform in the administration of a library. The board represents the whole community and is presumably chosen to make the library an efficient means of public education and recreation; and I take it for granted that the idea of spoils—politics, personal, social, or religious—is excluded from the management of the library. The board should determine the general policy of the library and its administration, regulate the scale of expenditures, salaries, etc.; and I assume that the members of the board are disposed to deal justly and fairly in regard to salaries, hours and vacations, ever mindful of the fact that reasonably happy circumstances are essential for the best service. The position of the board, therefore, is that of stewardship for the people, and the people have a right to demand that it be exercised. If any member of the board finds that his interest is not sufficient for him to give the library the little time that is

required, he owes it to the library and to the community to resign; and the community owes it to itself to remind him of this fact, should he forget it.

The librarian should be the executive officer of the board and as such be responsible to them for the execution of the plans and purposes of the library. It is presumed that the librarian has at least some knowledge and expertness in the profession of librarianship. The librarian, therefore, should have a free hand in developing and managing the internal and technical features of the library, control the assistants, detail the work they are to do, including in this the work of the janitor, and, in general, have full control of the detailed work of the library. As a rule and under normal circumstances, the librarian should represent the library before the community and all the employees before the board. With the advice and consent of the board, the librarian should have the right to employ, promote, suspend, or dismiss his assistants, again including the janitor.

The failure of governing boards to recognize these functions of the board and the librarian is a most fruitful source of misunderstanding, trouble and inefficiency in library administration. I recall cases where individual members of the board were in the habit of coming to the library and directing the librarian or the assistants as to the details of routine work—set the assistants to doing something different from what was assigned them by the librarian, set about doing things generally without consulting or regarding the librarian. When such cases arise the librarian should insist upon his rights. He is the executive officer of the whole board and not of any individual member. If the librarian is incapable of directing or doing this work satisfactorily, the board should employ another librarian and not disorganize the whole institution by attempting to right a wrong thing in the wrong way, thereby making the last condition worse than the first.

The deadly blight arising from lack of intelligent interest in library affairs

is much more likely to occur among men on a board than among women. Nothing can be more discouraging to a librarian than to have every plan for the improvement of the library held up by an uninterested, inactive board. Such a blight will in the long run affect the whole library and destroy much of its usefulness. I believe, therefore, that on the whole the misdirected interest that may arise on the part of women is better for the library, though harder for the librarian and the staff, than the paralyzing effect that may come from the persistent lack of interest, inactivity, and inattention to obvious duties on the part of men.

Another essential is that the librarian and the staff should know the history and spirit of the institution. They are part of an organization that has a life and a spirit, things that are rooted in the past. They can accomplish the best results only when all consciously realize the aims and purposes for which they are working. There should be a very definite plan in the mind of the librarian, and the whole staff should be taken into the scheme of the plan so that all can work together in an atmosphere of freedom—a freedom which is soon felt by the public and which alone can produce the best results.

Those in charge of a public library are caring for property that belongs to other people. It is essential that adequate records and accounts be kept of all money received and expended, so that an intelligent report of one's stewardship can be given at any time. But in bookkeeping, as in all other things, eliminate every possible bit of red tape.

It seems to me that many libraries are woefully lacking in their methods of bookkeeping—concealing rather than explaining what they did with the public money. Often the methods of bookkeeping are beyond the control of the library authorities, being prescribed by city ordinance. Instances are not unknown where the librarian must sign his name half a dozen times in the various steps connected with every purchase for the library. I should like, however, to

see a great reform in this direction—clearness and the exclusion of red tape. I recall selling a book to a library, and the bill for \$1.50 came back to me for receipt containing the names of eight different officials through whose hands it passed before payment could be made. Avoid such foolishness as you would the plague.

Good books, adapted to the needs of the particular community, are the life-blood of the library, for the right use of them is the end and aim of the library. It is essential to have a constant supply of them—better, I believe, to add small lots frequently than a relatively large lot once a year. Accept all kinds of books as gifts with the clear understanding that you reserve the right to make such use of them as comports with the best interests of the library. Never, however, be deluded with the idea that cast-off books which are sent you at house-cleaning time can put life into your library, any more than that the cast-off clothing that goes to a rummage sale would supply you with the clothes you would wish to wear at one of President Roosevelt's White House receptions. You can use these things, and you should, only have it generally understood that they will be used—on the shelves, for exchange, or for junk—as each item warrants. The person who gives something to a library in this way is generally more interested in it because of his gift, and it is that interest that we should ever keep in mind.

It is vastly more essential for the librarian of the small library to be a student, to know the books in the library, than it is for the librarian of the large library. In the large library, to know the books in it is, indeed, impossible, and the librarian must depend on others; his time is largely absorbed, as Mr Putnam once told me in his office in Washington, in pushing buttons—the details of administration.

Libraries with the proper librarian can do good work without a catalog. Some of the members of this association who are here present may recall the remark of Judge Pennypacker (now governor of

Pennsylvania) in his address welcoming us to the Historical society of Pennsylvania in 1897, to the effect that he then had 7500v. in his private library and all that his system of cataloging required when he wanted a book, was simply that he should walk to the shelf on which it stood and get it. In short, he carried the contents and the location of his books in his head. He was the library's catalog.

Public libraries, however, can not do this satisfactorily, not even small ones. Librarians resign, get married, or die, and then there is no catalog. The small library should have an accession book and an author card catalog. It can get along without the other desirable features, and in large libraries essentials, of modern cataloging, shelf-lists, subject catalogs, etc. The accession book is an account of stock. It is the one essential record of the history of every book, its cost, etc., in the library, and, in case of the library's destruction by fire, nothing can take its place in adjusting insurance. Libraries can and do get along without this record, but it seems to me that no public library can afford to be without it. Large libraries have the bibliographical tools to supply most of the information given in this book which the small library has not. Small libraries, as well as large, should avail themselves of the use of the cards supplied by the Library of congress. By classifying the books on the shelves the small library has some of the essentials of a subject catalog.

A system of registration for those who draw books from the library and a regular method of charging the books drawn is essential, though in a small library these records can be made exceedingly simple. A simple card system of charging is the most satisfactory. Another essential in the administration of this department of the library is that everyone be treated alike if fines are to be charged. Nothing arouses opposition to the library sooner than the feeling that favoritism is shown in dealing with the public. Have as few rules as possible, however. The golden rule is the

shortest and best. Put the emphasis on what *can* be done rather than on what *can't*. The latter makes for a passive library, the former for an aggressive one. It is essential that the library be aggressive.

From the various essential records that are kept, interesting statistics can readily be gathered, and these serve a useful purpose in making intelligent reports and in keeping up interest in the library; for it is essential that the public, as well as the governing board, be kept adequately informed of all the library is doing. And even then you will be surprised to learn how much of ignorance there remains in spite of your best efforts. (I may remark in passing that I believe that our largest libraries ought to employ a press agent, with his whole time devoted to keeping the public interested in the library.) Statistics should not be gathered for their own sake. They may easily cost more than they are worth. When rightfully used, however, they enable the librarian to make comparisons, detect weak points in the work of the library, and so enable the intelligent application of a remedy. Used in this way, statistics are essential in every library.

I leave for the conclusion of this paper the one essential that makes all things possible in a library, the one thing that the general public usually considers last, of least importance—the librarian.

Books alone are not a library, any more than a pile of stones is a cathedral. It requires knowledge, intelligence and skill—trained men—to make something out of these raw materials; and it takes as many years of training to learn to administer the affairs of a library to the best advantage as it does to learn to erect a large successful building. Furthermore, a librarian must know as wide a range of subjects as the architect.

The foremost essential in the administration of a small library (and I mention it last by way of emphasis) is the right kind of a librarian—a librarian with training and experience. With such a librarian the proper spirit of free-

dom and of service will soon dominate the whole institution; the various personal problems of dealing with people successfully—with the board, with the staff and with the public—will gradually adjust themselves to the satisfaction of all; the right books will be bought and guided intelligently and sympathetically into the hands of the people who really need them; every part of the work will be characterized by economy, accuracy and efficiency—economy in the matter of binding, the purchase of books and of supplies, the use of materials and in methods of work; accuracy in all the details of cataloging and record; and efficiency in making the library a real vital force in every phase of the life of the community. Such a librarian will keep out fads and personal whims; will keep free from becoming a slave of routine, mechanical details; will interest and secure the coöperation of the public in ways that will make many things possible beyond the regular fixed income of the library. In short, such a librarian will furnish the steam, the motive power, that must be put into any institution to make it go; for institutions no more run themselves than do locomotives. Such a librarian with a strong personality makes the library stand for character and for the highest manhood and womanhood; and on these will be built the future glory and greatness of our nation and our race—free, manly men. Such service on the part of the librarian can not be measured in dollars and cents, and it never will be. We ought not to expect it. Nor is it likely that such a librarian will receive the reward of famous men, but rather that of "men of little showing," men whose "work continueth," through all time continueth, "greater than their knowing."

While all of us fall far short of this ideal, it is the ideal worth striving for, on the part of trustees worth seeking for; for such a librarian is the foremost essential, not only of the small library, but of every library.

Library Buildings*

To a large part of the general public the library suggests a building—usually a Carnegie building; and many persons think that a building is the first thing that is necessary. (If I were a Mark Twain I should like to digress at this point to tell of some of the things that happen to a town when Mr Carnegie offers it a library.) A building is the last thing necessary for any library and especially one having an income of from \$1000 to \$5000 a year. A building is a good thing. It makes the library mean more to the public and stands for and insures the permanency of the institution. It is an evidence of better things hoped for; but I believe that a library with an income of only \$1000 should not have a building at all, if the maintenance of this building is to absorb practically all of its income. Let trustees have a realizing sense of what can and can not be done with \$1000 a year before assuming the fixed charges that go with a building. It is often wiser to wait for a larger income, and in the meantime much better results will be accomplished for the community if rented quarters are secured and the money put into books and the librarian. It is indeed giving a stone instead of bread when so large a proportion of the income is absorbed in maintaining a building, starving and freezing the life out of the library for the sake of the things that count for little in the real work it has to do.

And right here I wish to call attention to one non-essential in a library building for a small library, and that is the idea that it must be fireproof. Fireproof materials cost from 25 to 30 times as much as some of the materials that would serve every purpose in the working of the library. A library building in a small town need not be built with the idea that it is competing with a safe deposit company, where the fundamental idea is a safe place for storage. Libraries should be built and administered to keep books outside of the build-

ing as far as possible—in the hands of the readers. The few things that are really in need of safety against fire can be preserved much more cheaply in a substantial safe or vault.

The smallest town can start a library without a building, and scores of towns bear witness to the fact that they can erect the building when they are ready for it without waiting for someone to present it. Such towns have the true spirit of true democracy.

If, however, a town is offered a building what shall it do? If it has no library here is an opportunity to start one. Accept the gift. Then consult a librarian before consulting an architect. It is of the greatest importance for the small library to have its building planned so that its operation is as inexpensive as possible. Build it to save light and coal; build it to save work in keeping it neat and clean—mahogany furniture, polished brass fixtures, and marble floors, for example, add immensely to the cost of janitor service; build it to allow for growth and extension; and finally, build it so that one person can control all the rooms and do all the work for the public in all but the busiest hours.

I believe in fine buildings, handsome fittings, and all that goes with them; but it is a sin against the community when these things are put in and administered at the expense of the service that really counts in forming the lives and characters of the citizens. Such things are desirable—not essential. What a fine, large building means in expense for its care and maintenance may be realized from the fact that the new Ryerson public library building in Grand Rapids costs in one year nearly \$5000 more than the old quarters of the library, simply to keep it in condition that regular library work may be done in it. I may add, however, that such a building is worth much to a community simply as a work of art. It ought, however, to be clearly understood that extra provision is made for its care and maintenance on that score, as the city of Grand Rapids is doing and takes pride in doing.

*Part of paper read at Portland meeting of A. L. A. by S. H. Ranck of Grand Rapids, Mich.

Not on the List

EDITOR OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

There was one thing connected with the meeting at Portland for which I do not see a good reason and I should like to make mention of it in PUBLIC LIBRARIES in hope of its not occurring again, though I doubt if it will ever make any difference with me again, still it may with others.

There seemed to be a preëminence given to those who had come in the "special party" over the others who had come independently of the R. & W. Co. Why was it? In all the lists of names of those in attendance that were published only those appeared which were under the direction of the tourist agency. Even the official organ recognized the preëminence (July, p. 418). I fancy I hear someone say it is immaterial, but I can not think so. I did not find out that certain persons were at Portland until the close of the meeting. And worse than all else, I found out afterwards that very dear friends of mine living in Portland did not know I was there, although they searched the published lists for my name. All this would have been avoided if the secretaries had made their own lists. It may have been less work to hand in the tourist agent's list, but it was not fair to those members whose names were not on his list.

I don't believe the eastern party, accustomed as they are to the constant association with the bright people of the A. L. A., fully understood what the Portland meeting meant to those of us in the remote corners.

WESTERN LIBRARIAN.

Librarians in the Northwest

A book of travel

The journey to Portland over the Canadian Pacific, taken by 150 library people, the visit to Alaska, taken by about 150, and the visit to the Yellowstone, were all very enjoyable. During the trip a committee was appointed, informally, to prepare a book, with pictures descriptive of the trip, to cost not over \$2 per copy. The book if issued will contain a num-

ber of pictures, also a brief itinerary, probably the names of those who were on the several excursions, and a general description of the whole tour.

If any person wishes copies of this book, please so inform the committee at once, as the edition will be limited. John Cotton Dana, Free public library, Newark, N. J.; Mary W. Plummer, Pratt institute library school, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Theresa Hitchler, Brooklyn public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Another Periodical Mix-up

EDITOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Here's another periodical mix-up. It may be worth while to mention it in PUBLIC LIBRARIES. Mr Mumford's reply to my inquiry tells the whole story, so I shall just quote:

Your favor of June 24 is received. We beg to advise you that the copies of *Birds and nature* from January, 1905, to December, 1905, will be reprints of the 1897 numbers with entirely new text matter however. That is to say, the color plates will be duplicates. While this is our seventeenth volume we expect to label it Vol. I, and will do away with the first volume as it now stands.

Nice little problem for the librarian having a complete set of the magazine in question and desiring to number his bound volumes consistently.

CHARLES E. WRIGHT.
Duquesne, Pa., Aug. 24, 1905.

Cuba has adopted a system of reading in factories which could be followed with profit by other countries that boast of a much higher civilization.

In the cigar factories of Havana a reader is employed by the working people to read to them each day. The choice of the book to be read is decided by vote. Since the large majority of those employed know only the Spanish language, only such English books as have been translated into Spanish are available at these readings. *Don Quixote* is the most popular Spanish book and *Quo Vadis* the most popular English.—*La Crosse (Wis.) Chronicle*.

Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Library Bureau	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	Editor
Subscription	\$1 a year
Five copies to one library	\$4 a year
Single number	20 cents

PUBLIC LIBRARIES does not appear in August or September, and 10 numbers constitute a volume.

Using library positions as bait—The trouble in several library boards, notably Los Angeles, Albany, Fresno and several others that could be named, is not creditable to the state, to the community nor to the individuals concerned. To accept the trust of administering a public institution carries with it a pledge of upright dealing in caring for that trust. To use the position of a trust bearer for any other purpose whatsoever than to administer its affairs with an eye single to the best interests of the institution can not be called honest. Yet men who would resent an imputation on their integrity, who would swell with indignation at the epithet of thief, pay personal debts, political obligations or buy social recognition by handing over positions of public service to those whom they wish to reach with a seeming indifferent attitude toward their word of honor given to administer the trust to the good of the institution and the benefit of the whole people. Librarians everywhere can aid in the struggle for civic righteousness which is beginning, however feebly, by discountenancing such proceedings in every way possible, even to refusing to accept the bribe that may be offered to themselves. If we are poor let us be honest.

A. L. I.—At the last session of the Portland meeting of A. L. A. it was voted to establish an organization to be known as the American library institute. A committee was appointed, consisting of the ex-presidents of the A. L. A., to formulate a constitution, draft by-laws, etc. As several of the ex-presidents were on the City of Seattle taking the post-conference tour, con-

sultation and discussion of the project was frequent and earnest by those so honored. A draft of a constitution was developed, and it was said was sent to the ex-presidents all over the country, for their approval or objection. Up to the time of going to press, it has been impossible to get a statement of just what the proposed draft contains for presentation in PUBLIC LIBRARIES. It has been said, however, that membership in the A. L. I. is to be limited to 100 of the leaders of the profession, to be chosen by the ex-presidents. The institute will hold meetings independent of the A. L. A., and, in fact, it is said that the institute is an independent organization and only as its membership will include some who are members of the A. L. A., will have no official connection therewith. The purpose of the new organization as understood is to discuss the broader questions involved in the construction and maintenance of libraries and the use of books.

The A. L. A. conference of 1905—The annals of the A. L. A. will record the meeting of 1905 as one of the landmarks in the history of the association. Held in a region but little known to the majority of those present despite all that has been said about it, made up of every kind and grade of library worker, in an environment unlike anything before experienced, it was a meeting that will be known as marking what was before and what came after it. The tone of the sessions was new, there was a loosening up of old precedents along conventional grounds. Somehow there was that in Pres. Richardson's presiding which gave a touch of naturalness to all that was said and done. Or was it the western atmosphere which tolerates only the sincere? However it was, there was little striving for effect and that little was so apparent that it did not go beyond its own border.

The eastern contingent, as is its wont, gave full appreciation to what met its approval and what may have failed to please was passed over in silence. The western party expressed itself in its usual outspoken fashion and, perhaps

because of the fact of being on its native heath, with a little more assurance than it had done heretofore in an A. L. A. meeting. The middle ground occupied by others gave them that understanding and sympathy which served to weld together the whole in a way that is not always possible. So it may be said that the meeting was marked by frankness, sympathy, interest and general good fellowship, all important factors in any convention whose members have a common purpose. The launching of the American library institute was an action which in itself will form an important event in library history. Whether it will prove all that the author hopes for it, time alone will tell. Its object as outlined, to give those of known knowledge and experience an opportunity to discuss library administration without interference from minor details, is certainly a good one and, if the institute lives up to its declaration, should be productive of much good. The post-conference trip to Alaska was educative in more ways than one. The opportunity was afforded for a closer acquaintance as only a sea voyage could give, and it was not neglected. Much work was accomplished formally and informally that will count in days to come. There was also an amount of "frivoling" indulged in that will likewise bear its fruit.

"Criticism by invitation"—This is the caption of an article in a recent issue of the *Outlook*, dealing with the national conference of an association of workers along certain lines. The plan followed provided a program made up of a number of men unconnected with the association who had been invited to make a study of the association and who then brought to the conference the results of their observations. The report in the *Outlook* says: In making their request, the committee insisted that what the officers in conference desired was not commendation but criticism, that they desired to know what defects and what obstacles prevented a greater efficiency, and that the keener the scrutiny and the franker the criticism, the better they

would like it. The spirit of this request could not easily be resisted.

Men eminent in various walks of life and in position to judge of the matter responded to the invitation. Specific topics were assigned to the speakers. The interest aroused by the proposed discussion drew to the convention as large a number as usually attended, anxious to hear themselves and their work discussed. Some very severe judgments were rendered. The *Outlook* concludes its statement as follows: Never was criticism received in a more sober, eager, and candid spirit. The institution that becomes satisfied with its achievements is in decay. We should like to see the idea embodied in this program borrowed by other bodies. Is there any church or denomination or any organization of business men that would venture to invite outsiders to study its life and then with absolute candor tell it its faults?

Why would not something of the kind be a good thing for the A. L. A.? It might not be. Those who attended a conference a decade ago will recall the bad feelings displayed by many of the members at the warning uttered by the president in his address, against the danger of too great complacency with "well enough." His effort to sprinkle "the saving salt of discontent" resulted in anything but good for many, and there are library workers today who still misunderstand the spirit of the address and misconstrue the motives of the one who delivered it; nevertheless, the writer thinks the plan spoken of in the *Outlook* is a good one, and urges the program committee for the 1906 meeting of the A. L. A. to adopt it in part at least.

Several efforts, such as work with schools, with children, with outside organizations, the relations to the business world, booksellers, supply companies, architects, etc., have developed sufficiently to furnish a basis for discussion and the results would be beneficial to many and ought to be so to all.

**American Library Association
Portland (Ore.) Meeting**

The twenty-seventh annual convention of the American library association was held in Portland, July 4-7, and was in many ways a remarkable gathering. When Portland was proposed as the place for holding this convention, strenuous opposition developed on the part of many who honestly believed that it would be impossible to hold a meeting of sufficient importance to warrant the long journey necessary for most of the members to attend its meetings. Subsequent events showed that this impression was incorrect. There has probably not been a meeting held for years at which so few of those in attendance were there for any other purpose than to extract from the gathering all the good that was possible to get out of it. There was a larger number of library assistants in attendance than usual. There was a good attendance of the older members, who really do things without much display. There was a noticeable absence of the librarians of the larger cities—Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Chicago and New Orleans being unrepresented by either their chief librarian or anyone designated for the purpose.

The objection to the long distance to be traveled was partly overcome by the fact that the special train provided made it possible for a goodly number to come together and have such preliminary discussion before the time of the meeting as to do away with the necessity of much time being absorbed in discussion afterwards.

The nominations and other business of the council were promptly and properly cared for on Tuesday morning, and the first regular session was held in the afternoon of July 4, and each day and evening saw the regular sessions held with a good attendance throughout the week. The program, as printed, was varied from only so far as the exigencies of the hour demanded, and for the most part the reports of the officers and committees were received and disposed of.

Several were printed beforehand for distribution. Extracts from some of them are as follows:

Summary A. L. A. treasurer's report, 1904

Balance on hand, Jan. 1, 1904	\$ 328.66
Receipts, Jan.-Dec., 1904:	
Fees from annual members, 1245 at \$2.....	\$2490.00
Fees from annual library members, 30 at \$5.....	150.00 2640.00
Life memberships, 6 at \$25.....	150.00
Inside Inn, repayment of deposit.....	100.00
Found at conference headquarters.....	.25
Interest on current deposits.....	41.02
	<u>\$3259.93</u>
Payments, Jan.-Dec., 1904:	
*Proceedings.....	\$ 18.62
Stenographer	150.00
Handbook	129.50
Secretary's salary.....	250.00
Secretary's and conference expenses.....	385.17
Treasurer's expenses ...	162.54
Committee on relations with the book trade...	189.29
Committees, sections, etc.	121.64
	<u>\$1406.76</u>
Trustees of the endowment fund, life memberships for investment.....	\$ 125.00
Inside Inn, St Louis, deposit to secure rooms for foreign delegates..	100.00
Balance on hand, Dec. 31, 1904.....	<u>1628.17</u>
	<u>\$3259.93</u>

The number of members in good standing on Dec. 31, 1904, was as follows:

Annual members (paid for 1904)	1142
Library members (paid for 1904)	30
Life members.....	44
Honorary members	9
Life fellows	2
Perpetual member.....	1

1228

During the year, 264 new members joined the association and five members died.

GARDNER M. JONES, Treas.

Report of the A. L. A. publishing board

Period covered eight months. The personnel of the board unchanged. The appointment of E. C. Hovey full of valuable possibilities. His suggestions in

*The Proceedings of the St Louis conference were not paid for until after Jan. 1, 1905. The cost was \$1278.32.

regard to change in business methods already proven valuable. Offer of Library of congress to print Portrait index as a special publication of its own accepted, thus releasing time and money reserved for that purpose.

A. L. A. booklist launched in February, 1905. Sale of all material on hand is slow. Two tracts added to the series—Notes from the art section of a library, by C. A. Cutter, and Essentials in library administration, by Lutie E. Stearns.

The following is a general financial statement:

Assets	
Accounts receivable.....	\$1279.83
Cash	833.25
Stock on hand, at cost	874.42
	<hr/>
	\$2987.50
Liabilities	
Accounts payable.....	\$ 834.10
Surplus	2153.40
	<hr/>
	\$2987.50

Report of the Committee on bookbinding

First, attention is called to the fact that this committee was appointed to investigate, not simply the subjects of publishers' bindings and book papers, as is indicated by the program, but also and more especially the subject of library bindings and rebinding.

At the present meeting it is assumed that only an initiatory report is expected from the committee. The committee as at present constituted has only recently been appointed. A grant of \$50 has been made by the endowment committee for conducting the necessary investigations.

The committee, consisting of Messrs W. P. Cutter, A. L. Bailey and myself, does not contain in its number a practical binder, or anyone who has given any special attention to the subject. To us it is one of the subjects of library administration. As publishers' bindings and papers have grown poorer and library circulations have increased, binding bills have grown; hence this question has assumed greater importance—sufficient importance to justify a special investigation, to be pursued purely from the point of view of economical administration.

In the course of this investigation

the committee will have occasion to send circular letters to typical librarians asking their coöperation. As it may not be practicable to send circulars to all libraries, it is requested that all librarians who have discovered methods or processes in library bindings, out of the ordinary, will at once and from time to time send to the committee notes as a basis for further investigation. It is also requested that libraries give or loan to the committee, samples of bindings in use by them, that may be out of the ordinary, and that have proved satisfactory and economical. Also voluntary suggestions of any kind for the conduct of this investigation are invited.

This report of progress is respectfully submitted, for the committee, by

GEORGE F. BOWERMAN, Chairman.

Coöperation with N. E. A.

The committee on coöperation with the Library department of the National educational association presented the following report, through Miss Ahern:

The unfortunate geographical separation between the two organizations, A. L. A. and N. E. A., serves to emphasize anew the desirability and even the necessity of a closer alliance. The committee brings this thought forward again because it is every day more apparent that the public libraries and the public schools must work together if either is to meet with the highest success. With this thought in mind, the members of the committee have each in his or her own territory given special thought during the year to the promotion of these most helpful relations. Much has been done also by correspondence, and something has been accomplished by the personal efforts of members of the committee outside of their immediate locality. The chairman has visited seven of the leading cities of New York, speaking at least once in each, and making the relations of the public libraries and the public schools his constant theme. Acting upon a suggestion of his made some years ago, there is now in each public school of Greater New York a library bulletin, giving the location of

the nearest public library, the name of the librarian, and carrying from time to time special library notices of interest. There has also been constant effort in this direction by all members of the committee, in the use of the local press.

Miss Ahern, a member of this committee, has been able to report an effort in Chicago, through the Chicago library club, to bring the libraries, schools, museums and art galleries of that city into closer relation. An outline of the matter is included as part of this report, to be printed in the proceedings.

Your committee ventures to suggest the desirability and feasibility of holding the sessions of the American library association at the same place as that in which the National educational association meets, either immediately before or immediately after the session of the latter organization. This would not mean a yielding of any independence or individuality on the part of the A. L. A., while it would give the A. L. A. the advantage of the special railroad rates obtained by the N. E. A., and above all—that which is most important—the opportunity of a large interchange of members in the attendance upon the various sessions of each organization.

Your committee has engaged in much correspondence with normal school people and others concerning the proposed small manual on library administration, for use in the normal schools and possibly in some secondary schools as well. We are glad to report that this little book, to be divided into 10 chapters, one for each of 10 recitation or lecture periods, is already well under way, and that we have the promise of its coming from the press not later than the first of January next. The chapter headings and the syllabus of each chapter has been, and the text itself when complete will be, passed under the criticism not only of members of this committee, but of the librarians and principals of some of the more noteworthy normal schools of the country.

J. H. CANFIELD, Chairman.

Report of Committee on book buying

The main points of the report were as follows:

The appointment of this committee took its rise in the general dissatisfaction of librarians with the net book system under the present rules of the American publishers' association. Members of the A. L. A. felt that this system had resulted in an increase of book prices and that something should be done about it, although opinions differed about the proper course to be pursued.

The plans of procedure of this committee proposed naturally divided themselves into two categories—measures of amelioration and measures of retaliation. Your committee has devoted itself, during the past two years, more particularly to the former. It has been our aim to show that the interests of publishers and booksellers are not opposed to those of libraries, and that favors shown to the latter will result in the general encouragement of all business connected with literature rather than in the creation of a sort of monopolistic rivalry, as seems to have been feared. Efforts to secure increase of discount to libraries, though not without encouragement, have as yet resulted in nothing practical, and we have devoted most of our efforts to lightening the librarian's burden by trying to show him how he may expend his book appropriation to the greatest advantage.

Our series of bulletins for the library year 1905 has contained chiefly advice to librarians on the purchase of books, including suggestions regarding cheap purchase by importation at secondhand and from remainder sales, with occasional lists of catalogs in which announcements of such sales are to be found, and other items of news which seemed to us calculated to aid librarians in deciding what books to buy, and how, where, and through whom to buy them.

These bulletins have gone out especially to the smaller libraries of the country, and we have tried to make them particularly useful to those libraries. We

believe it to be a fact that much information in regard to books, even when it appears trite and elementary to the librarian of a large city institution, is not in the possession of those in charge of small rural or town libraries, and that information of this kind, in condensed and simple form, is welcomed by such persons and is of value to them. This information, so far as it pertains to book buying, we have endeavored to give in just this way; in other words, we have been conducting an elementary correspondence school of book purchasing, in which the object has been to teach small libraries to get books to fit their own conditions and their own constituencies. That there are frequent misfits is much to be feared. We have had reports, for instance, of book committees in small towns who, having at their disposal \$50 or so for the immediate purchase of books, have planned to expend the whole for a ten-volume subscription set. It is in order to stop this sort of thing that we have been urging small libraries to devote more attention to the purchase of good books at reasonable rates.

We have thought it desirable, in connection with our work, to prepare a list of out-of-print books in general demand at libraries and to see whether some publisher could not be induced to reprint all or part of these. It would appear, however, as if interest in this matter were almost entirely lacking in libraries. A publisher has been found who will undertake the reprinting of such out-of-print works as appear likely to yield a slight profit, but librarians have not yet given him or us any aid in the selection of books for a preliminary venture. That there are many good old books that it would pay to reprint all will agree, and it ought not to be difficult to secure a list of those most in demand.

The chairman of your committee has twice been called upon to explain the book-price situation by word of mouth to bodies of librarians—once to the Iowa library association at St Louis and again to the Illinois association at Rockford,

Ill. It would be well if the work of the committee could include more of this personal element, but with our present small appropriation, the expense of such visits must fall either upon the association that issues the invitation or upon the member of the committee who accepts it, either of which alternatives seems to involve an injustice.

While we have been able to expend our appropriation of \$200 to good advantage, we believe that more could be done with an increased amount, especially in the line of the personal work to which allusion has been made above, and we therefore ask for an appropriation of \$500 for the ensuing year.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, Chairman.

Gifts and bequests

J. L. Harrison in his annual report on gifts and bequests gave the following:

The report covers only seven months; that is, the balance of the year 1904 not covered by the report made at St Louis last year. This short period was taken that succeeding reports might be made to correspond with the calendar year.

Two hundred and fifty-three gifts are reported, representing 116,552 v., five collections of books, \$5,128,170, and 58 miscellaneous gifts, including one building with grounds, seven sites, art and natural history collections, paintings and various other gifts, the several values of which could not be ascertained.

The money gifts other than those of Mr Carnegie amount to \$4,118,670. This includes 11 of \$5000 each, one of \$8000, 11 of \$10,000 two of \$15,000, three of \$20,000, three of \$25,000, one of \$40,000, one of \$75,000, one of \$100,000, two of \$150,000, three of \$200,000, one of \$250,000, one of \$300,000, two of \$500,000, and one of \$1,000,000.

Mr Carnegie's gifts to libraries in the United States number 34 and amount to \$1,009,500. In their distribution the north Atlantic division of states received \$425,000, the south Atlantic \$35,000, the south central \$200,000, the north central \$309,500 and the western \$40,000. Of the states receiving the greatest

number of gifts Indiana ranks first with five, Illinois second with four and Kansas third with three.

A table prepared by Dr Horace White of New York, and embodied in the address delivered by him at the dedication of the Beloit college library—the gift of Mr Carnegie—in January last, is an interesting and significant statistical summary, the data of which was supplied for the first time by Mr Carnegie himself. The table shows, in brief, that Mr Carnegie has provided 620 towns in the United States, including Porto Rico, with 780 libraries, at a cost of \$29,194,080, which serve a population of 14,306,880, and that the total number of his library gifts through the year 1904 is 1290, distributed among 1048 hamlets, villages, towns and cities, representing an enormous gift of \$39,325,240, and serving a population of 24,414,692.

President Richardson's address

Pres. Richardson's address was a most interesting one, full of helpful exposition of the library problem and given in his earnest, sincere manner, held the attention of his audience. The following was the trend of his thought:

The library problem is double—to aid in the collection of new ideas and in the diffusion of common knowledge. In considering the national problem, however, the intention is to lay the most emphasis on the second: to aid the cause of popular education and the making of good citizens.

Books of different kinds are not sufficiently scattered at present. A student desiring certain information wished 1216 books. He could not find 478 at all, 131 more at only one point, and copies of 718 of the books desired were not on the Pacific coast anywhere. This marks one of the problems—better distribution of books, and this, through a better coöperation, cheapening of the postal rates, and the publication of a coöperative catalog showing where to find works.

There are two facts near the foundation of the necessity for books. A man and his ideas are the same. The unity of a nation is in its ideas. There are

three classes of people who must be taught the American ideas, the small children, and the immigrants from both Europe and the Orient. Here on the Pacific coast the task is a little harder than farther east, for the Oriental is the hardest of all to teach.

A nation is a body of common ideas, which show themselves in constitutions, proverbs, common law, statutes and national literature. Our ideas may not be the best, but we wish to preserve them.

Dr Richardson closed his address with a plea for national headquarters for the A. L. A. that it might work with expert business direction for the help of those in search of rare books, for librarians in search of aid in choice of books, and for the public in the distribution of books. Washington as the capital and New York as the metropolis have been suggested.

Summary of coast conditions

C. W. Smith of the Seattle public library gave an interesting summary of library conditions of the Northwest. A look of wonder and almost skepticism came over the eastern visitors when he said that the northwest territory of five states, British Columbia and Alaska that had never before been visited, covered one-half of the United States map, and that Washington, the infant one of these five, was eight times as large as Massachusetts, to which it was proper to refer when speaking of libraries. In this territory are less than 50 free libraries, and Alaska, where a long winter evening may be three months, has only one. Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana have state commissions, recently organized. The methods and equipments of the western libraries are up-to-date and at least a good imitation of eastern methods. He pointed to the West as a field for greater usefulness in the library world and pledged its ready support to the free library movement, saying it needed only the awakening to the value, and funds and support would follow.

E. O. L. Scholefield, librarian of the British Columbia provincial library gave

a bright, interesting paper on Library conditions in the Canadian Northwest, describing the ideal conditions hoped for without apologizing for the lack in present conditions. Mr Scholefield's wit and good nature made him a prime favorite of the A. L. A. meeting.

Miss Hillebrand of the Public library of Honolulu gave an interesting résumé of the history of that library (See *P. L. 9:14-15*).

The night sessions were of general interest with the thought of entertaining the general public.

Dr Herbert Putnam gave an interesting address on the Library of congress, which is in fact a national library. He referred to the vast resources readily accessible by means of library loans to students all over the country.

Mr Dewey presented the claim of the library as a complement to every other educational agency and was listened to with interest as he predicted its future.

T. W. Koch of Michigan university gave a stereopticon presentation of the Carnegie libraries that carried many a lesson.

Library organizations

A report by J. C. Dana on library associations and clubs, printed and distributed at the meeting, was interesting. It gave 52 organizations in the United States, with a total membership of 6188; in England 9 organizations and 1148 members; other countries 7 organizations and 650 members. In the paper which Mr Dana read he gave much sound argument concerning the aim and work of library associations. The following are extracts:

If ever they seem of doubtful value—these organizations of ours—let us remind ourselves that by such in good part has man learned to be his neighbor's neighbor and that neighbor's fellow-citizen. To work with your fellows to a common end—this is to be civilized, to be moral, to be efficient. This makes nations possible and promises the parliament of the world.

And so, in speaking of associations of librarians, the first thing to be said is

that they effect so much by the mere fact that they are. They do so much of which we are but vaguely conscious; they give to so many so often, without outward sign, that subtle feeling of comradeship which becomes, before one knows it, a stimulus to further effort and a guide to that effort's profitable expense. One may well say, then, that the best work of an association is the association itself. . .

I have said enough about the value of such work to those who carry it through, but too much can not be said about the value to your calling of discreet and dignified publicity. We have not enough libraries yet, so we assume, and those we have, we frankly admit, fail by much of reaching their highest efficiency. We wish to impress our fellows with a sense of the value of libraries to their communities. Then, we wish to show how easy it is for any community to establish a library and support it. Then, we wish to learn from one another and to call forth from the public criticisms and suggestions. The newspapers like to help us do these things. They can be done, with their help, by one person. They can be better done, usually, by three or four. They can be done better still by an organization with a name, an object, officers, meetings and reports. This is sound psychological theory. It has worked well many times in practice. . .

I have touched on the details of the smallest library association. Let me say something also of the larger ones, usually easy to form, often given to sounding brass and tinkling cymbals, sometimes dying and quite unmindful of the fact, and never as effective as opportunity permits.

They are often too conservative. They think it is their wisdom which restrains them, while in fact it is simply their mediocrity. They rise no higher than their average. They repress the aggressive and the original. They fear they may do something improper, and, clothed in perfect propriety, before they are aware they reach Nirvana.

For special sins they make their meetings too long. In their zeal to make

many good points they fail of one. They crowd their programs until their gatherings are both dizzily encyclopedic and tediously long. They fail in hospitality, and the members gather solemnly and glare at one another across a crowded room and pass out again with never a gain in fellowship. They harp too much on one string; or they talk unconsidered prattle about details which only carefully chosen words can set duly forth. They parade their fluent speakers until their meetings become little more than one voice crying in a wilderness of inattentive ears. They do not give the timid a chance; rather they don't compel the shy to take up their burdens and talk. They bring the heads, the chiefs, forever into gatherings with the assistants, and check that outpouring of the spirit which the latter would delight in. They do not cultivate the art of provoking and guiding discussion. They look for a crop of spontaneous ideas in a soil which does not grow them. They do not make sure that from the floor, at the call of the chairman, shall come, in seeming impromptu, the best things of the day. They do not work together as they should. Every club and association in the country, more than 50 of them, should be in touch with the A. L. A., and so with each other. Every member of each and every association should be made to feel that by joining her own association she becomes united with the national organization and will get something from it. They do not—the larger and stronger clubs are the more able in this direction, and thereby the greater sinners—make themselves of direct use to the community of readers-at-large by producing work of practical value to readers and students. The hundreds of libraries and library workers gathered within the great eastern cities, have, in the ecstasy of self-contemplation, quite forgotten to gather the golden fruit of opportunity—and I speak as one of the sinners.

Harriet Hassler, in charge of children's room of Portland public library, presented a paper from which the following is taken:

Work of the public library for children

Today scarcely a library architect in the land would risk his professional reputation by planning an up-to-date library without making special provision for the boys and girls. Long ago the American people appreciated the importance of teaching every child within their borders how to read, but it was only within the last score of years that they began to realize that the work of the state was but half done if at the same time they were not provided with proper books to read. The actual ability to read may prove quite as much of a curse as a blessing unless children are given fit material on which to exercise their ability.

It is by no means necessary for a library to wait for large beginnings before it attempts systematic work for its children.

The books should be for children from six to fourteen years of age, ranging from the delectable picture books illustrated by Boutet de Monvel, Kate Greenaway and Walter Crane, to Ivanhoe and David Copperfield. In addition to a well-balanced collection of standard juvenile books and a few children's periodicals, the walls of the room should be made attractive by prints and casts. Watts' Sir Galahad, Thorwaldsen's Lion of Lucerne, St Gauden's Shaw memorial, a bust of Michael Angelo's David, a photograph of the Parthenon, or a good print of the Sistine Madonna, one of Murillo's groups of children, or a group of animals by Landseer or Rosa Bonheur, or any picture of this order will be found of living interest to children and at the same time worthy of the dignity of the library.

The actual selection of books is the most difficult task in connection with the equipment of the children's library, for as yet we have no perfect list of all the best books for children. The best things to guide in the purchase of children's books are the various annotated lists published by the most competent judges of American literature we have. Foremost among these lists is the A. L.

A. annotated list of books for boys and girls compiled by Miss Hewins and the list compiled by Miss Moore for the Iowa State library commission and by Miss Hunt of the Brooklyn public library. These, supplemented by the children's lists in the current numbers of the Bulletin of Carnegie library of Pittsburg, will prove of inestimable value.

For the work within the children's room it is essential to have some complete list of the juvenile books, preferably on cards, so that it can be kept in systematic order. The best service is rendered by a shelf-list of children's books, arranged in classes just as the books are arranged on the shelves, supplemented by a children's catalog in which cards are made for every book in the room.

The catalog is the most valuable tool of the children's library. It is permanent and is constantly growing with the addition of new books. It treats all books impartially, and does not attempt to direct a child's reading along special lines. This special direction must be done by means of picture bulletins, lists, story hours and birthday and anniversary celebrations. The perfection of method seems to be the uniting of all these special agencies into one system, so as to give unity to the work of the children's department.

A satisfactory way of celebrating birthday and other anniversaries is by using a large-sized calendar and pasting over the various dates the portraits of the great men who were born on those days. Four or five may be selected for each month, and the books suggested by the portrait may be brought together on shelves set apart for the purpose. If the interest is stimulated by an interesting story hour, the books will be read by more children.

Aside from the birthday anniversaries, the national days may well be observed with appropriate bulletins, lists and story hours. Labor day suggests an industrial exhibit where pictures and descriptions may be supplemented by actual samples from the manufacturer illustra-

ting processes employed in reducing the raw material to the finished product.

A line of story hour that has proved successful has been the Saturday morning "book talk" which is usually preceded by an explanation of the catalog and of the arrangement of the books in the room. These book talks are designed to familiarize groups of children with the best books in the children's room and incidentally to give them standards of selection by which they can judge for themselves. It is not necessary to have all the library children attend these talks—if 20 boys or girls in the room know that certain books are desirable, very shortly the news will be communicated to ten times that number. It should be remembered that "story hour" is but a convenient term, and usually means a "story half-hour," or even less.

One of the most interesting phases of library development during the past decade has been its coöperation with the public schools. Throughout the United States and Canada teachers and librarians are supplementing one another and are becoming more and more mutually dependent. In several free libraries, which were formerly subscription libraries, this movement had its origin in the issuing of free tickets to school children and to teachers. Later, as these libraries became free, this developed into the special privileges of the teachers' cards, which included the use of from two to fifty extra books, for which extra time was allowed extending over a period of from three weeks to the entire school year. These extremes of generosity can not be indulged in by the very small libraries. When it is remembered that direct help to a teacher is more or less indirect help to the whole room full of children under her, it is clear that what may seem an extravagance is only a wise economy both of books and of energy. One secret of successful coöperation between the public library and the public school lies in the ability of the children's library to make itself indispensable to the teachers without intruding on them. Such a relation-

ship is of slow growth, based on mutual confidence and mutual loyalty. The aim of both institutions is the same—the development of the child into an independent, self-respecting, useful citizen—yet their functions are as distinct as the functions of the sun and the rain, and they should never encroach on one another.

The very small library that can scarcely send out traveling libraries to schools, can make itself useful to the schools by lending them mounted pictures to illustrate their classroom work.

The conviction of many prominent librarians is expressed in the words of the director of one of the older library schools in the East: There is no more important work in the library, no more delicate, critical work than that with the children, no work that pays so well in immediate as well as in far-reaching results.

Miss Olcott of the Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, prepared a most interesting paper on this topic also, which was read in her absence by A. H. Hopkins. It was founded on her own experience in children's work.

Children's librarians' section

A brief business meeting of the Children's librarians' section was held at the Portland library on July 6. The following officers were elected: Mrs A. H. Jackson, chairman; Miss F. J. Heaton, secretary.

In order that the special work of the section might keep in touch with general library work, it was decided to appoint an advisory committee; this committee to consist of five members of the A. L. A. not children's librarians. The following committee was asked to serve: Helen E. Haines, Carolina M. Hewins, Mary F. Isom, Mary W. Plumber, Mary L. Titcomb.

Trustees' section meeting

The Trustees' section met at 4:30 p. m. Friday, Chairman Porter presiding. The session was well attended and the addresses were very interesting.

Mr Dewey addressed the section on the Relative duties of trustees and librarians. Mr Putnam also spoke very

entertainingly on the Librarian without a trustee; Mr Smith, trustee of the Portland library, Mr Corey of Malden, Mass., the former chairman of the section, and Dr H. Wald Battmann of the Cincinnati public library offered helpful suggestions looking toward a cordial co-operation of library officers.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Washington T. Porter, trustee public library of Cincinnati, chairman; Thomas L. Montgomery, State library of Pennsylvania, secretary.

Catalog section

The first session of the Catalog section was held Wednesday afternoon, July 5, C. B. Roden presiding.

The general topic of the first session was the Library of congress cards. Mr Hanson opened the discussion with a statement regarding recent changes in Library of congress practice, using the A. L. A. rules as a standard of comparison. At the conclusion of his remarks, Mr Hanson was kept busy replying to a number of queries, and a lively discussion developed. Miss Countryman and others questioned the expediency of altering old headings in a catalog to agree with those of the Library of congress; Mr Sewall suggested the printing of a special edition of cards for analytical entries, and many other suggestions and points for discussion were brought out, of which, without a stenographer, it was impossible to keep an adequate record. The subject of the weight of cards was introduced by C. H. Hastings, who explained that the Library of congress, acting on the suggestion of Mr Dewey, had arranged a series of tests, with the assistance of a number of libraries, in order to learn whether the L. or R. weight card consumed the longer time in handling. As results from these tests had been received from but three libraries at the date of this meeting, no definite conclusions could be drawn from them. Mr Dewey made a strong plea for the thinner card, declaring that, in his opinion, libraries must soon adopt it as a matter of self-preservation. The question was freely discussed, and the

majority seemed to favor the heavier card.

An interesting communication was submitted to the section by the chairman in the form of a letter from Frank W. Gale, the chairman of the publications committee of the Christian Science church in California, explaining the scope and objects of the movement, and objecting to the classification of its literature with mental science and similar types. Several catalogers present spoke of the difficulties of assigning a proper place to this subject in the D. C., and it was resolved to give the letter wider publicity by publication in the library periodicals, with a view to arriving at a satisfactory solution.

The second session, held on Friday afternoon, July 7, was devoted to a discussion of problems relating to the catalog in the small library. About 80 were in attendance. Theresa Hitchler, superintendent of cataloging of the Brooklyn public library, became the very efficient leader of the discussion, opening with a comprehensive statement embodying much sound advice and many suggestions, which were received with great interest and gave rise to a continuous stream of questions.

The annual election of officers of the section resulted in the choice of Theresa Hitchler for chairman and Gertrude Forstall as secretary.

Library commissions at Portland

By vote of the Commission section, which met in Portland during the afternoon of Thursday, July 6, the Executive board of the A. L. A. was requested to merge its functions hereafter with those of the League of library commissions. The latter, while preserving an independent organization, has taken steps for affiliation with the A. L. A. in the event that an amendment is adopted to the A. L. A. constitution permitting such relation. If this plan is carried into effect, it will devolve upon the League hereafter to plan the program usually arranged by the officers of the Commission section.

En route to the Cascades of the Co-

lumbia river, a meeting of the league members was held on the boat, and an organization effected by the adoption of certain provisions to be incorporated in a constitution to be ratified upon being presented to the several commissions in complete form. The essential features of the proposed constitution are: That each commission, state library, or other organization entrusted with the promotion of library interests in any state, shall be eligible to membership with the privilege of casting one vote through an accredited representative. The officers are a president and a secretary-treasurer who, with the chairman of a committee on publication, shall comprise an executive board to transact the business of the league. The committee on publication will secure and prepare material to be submitted to the Publishing board of the A. L. A. Such publications as this latter body is not in a position to undertake will be issued at the expense and with the imprint of the league. The following officers have been elected for the ensuing year: President, Henry E. Legler, Madison, Wis.; secretary-treasurer, Alice S. Tyler, Des Moines, Iowa. The following committee on publication has been appointed: Cornelia Marvin, Salem, Ore., Merica Hoagland, Indianapolis, Ind., Clara F. Baldwin, St Paul, Minn.

At the conclusion of the meeting of the Commission section, presided over by Dr Melvil Dewey, a report of the League of library commissions, embracing a résumé of the past year's activities, was read by the chairman. Johnson Brigham of Iowa read a paper on a Model commission law, taking as a basis for his suggestions and criticisms the recently enacted statute of Oregon which creates a Free library commission, having charge of the public library interests of the state and of the school libraries as well, including the selection and purchase of books for them. Mr Brigham's paper elicited considerable discussion, the diversity of opinions being as great as differences in

the commission laws which are in force in the various states.

A. L. A. officers for 1906

Officers were elected as follows: President, Frank P. Hill, Brooklyn public library; first vice-president, C. W. Andrews, Chicago; second vice-president, Caroline H. Garland, Dover, N. H.; secretary, J. I. Wyer, Lincoln, Neb., re-elected; treasurer, G. M. Jones, Salem, Mass., re-elected; recorder, Helen E. Haines, New York city; trustee of endowment fund, Alex. Maitland, New York city; councilors, G. T. Clark, San Francisco, Linda Eastman, Cleveland, F. M. Crunden, St Louis, Mary F. Isom, Portland, W. C. Kimball, Passaic, N. J.

Proceedings of the Executive board of the A. L. A., July 7, 1905

Registrar—Nina E. Browne, appointed.

Publishing board—H. E. Legler and Electra C. Doren were appointed members of the Publishing board for a term of three years.

Finance committee—Samuel W. Foss, Dew B. Hall, Miss T. E. Macurdy.

Gifts and bequests—J. L. Harrison.

Committee on book buying—A. E. Bostwick, J. C. Dana, B. C. Steiner.

Travel committee—F. W. Faxon, C. B. Roden, E. C. Hovey, with authority to add two members if found desirable.

Index to prose fiction—Josephine Rathbone, Beatrice Winser.

Library administration—W. R. Eastman, H. C. Wellman, Cornelius Marvin.

Coöperation with the N. E. A.—J. H. Canfield, Melvil Dewey, M. E. Ahern, E. C. Doren, Martin Hensel.

Indexes and title-page to periodicals—W. I. Fletcher, Ernst Lemcke, A. E. Bostwick.

Bookbinding and book papers—Geo. F. Bowerman, W. P. Cutter, A. L. Bailey.

Delegates to Copyright conference—Frank P. Hill, A. E. Bostwick.

Permanent headquarters—Melvil Dewey, W. C. Lane, Frederick M. Crunden, James Bain jr, J. I. Wyer.

Program—Frank P. Hill, Helen E. Haines, J. I. Wyer.

Affiliation of the League of library commission—Application from the executive committee of the League of library commissions was received, asking for affiliation with the A. L. A. According to the provisions of an amendment to Section 17 of the constitution, adopted at the Portland meeting and to be finally ratified at the annual meeting of 1906, this request was received and the secretary instructed to make suitable mention of the status of the League of library commissions in the 1905 handbook.

J. I. WYER JR, Sec.

Some Opinions of the Meeting*

In view of the seeming lack of faith in the desirability of a meeting of the A. L. A. on the Pacific coast on the part of a number of prominent members of the association, it may be interesting to note a few expressions in regard to the meeting after it had been held:

Melvil Dewey—I consider it a mighty good meeting; more people, more interest, more seed sowing, and more far reaching in effect than any other meeting ever held. There was more keen interest and appreciation than usual. With little press notice and small publicity given to the meeting the outcome was extremely good.

E. C. Hovey—It has been 11 years since I attended an A. L. A. meeting. I find the meeting itself changed for the better in some respects, though I miss many of the old faces which are a loss, yet many new ones are full of promise. There was a much larger number in attendance than I had expected.

A. H. Hopkins—Remarkable evidence of an extreme interest in libraries. The daring of a city the size of Portland in attempting such a meeting is enough to excite admiration. It certainly has been well worth while both for those who came and for those to whom they came. The full fruit of the meeting will not be seen for years to come, but it is certain that this will not only extend through the United States, but in British Columbia, Alaska and the islands of the sea. It is to be hoped there will be evidence of it in the Canadian provinces other than British Columbia.

Dr E. C. Richardson—I thought it a very interesting meeting judging from the chair. The spontaneous debate was a feature that added much interest and might well be extended in the future. The meeting and the scenery far exceeded my expectations, as did also the attendance, and in this I am saying a good deal.

E. O. L. Scholefield—I wish we might have such a meeting out here frequently.

*With apologies to Wellwisher (see L. J. 28:66) with the request that he "do not read."—Editor P. L.

I hope the A. L. A. will come to Victoria, say five years from now. We will have something to show and be ready for the meeting.

C. W. Smith—It was a good meeting. I feel a greater interest in library matters because of it. I know I got a further insight into matters in general than I had before. The post-conference trip was worth all it cost and was a valuable feature to those who were strangers.

Cornelia Marvin—The meeting was an interesting one, though it seems to me there was too much of mediocre quality on the program for a national meeting. That is, personalities were too much in evidence. This was the fault, perhaps, of the individual who never understands that what he is doing at Podunk may possibly not be of paramount interest and usually has no connection with the subject in hand. I think it would be a good plan to have a committee to pass on papers to be read so that the audience might be spared the pains of listening to platitudes. An outsider could not gain a favorable opinion of the intellectual quality and professional ability of the craft from hearing what was offered at these various sessions.

Joy Lichtenstein—This A. L. A. conference and post conference have meant very, very much to us. Not the least has been the growth since our return of a "noble discontent," a realization of how much there is to be done, measured by what is being accomplished elsewhere. We have been able to place not only you, but ourselves.

Mary W. Plummer—I thought the meeting extremely interesting. The fact that it was affords me satisfaction in view of our efforts to have it held at Portland. Everyone seems satisfied; even those who opposed the idea of a meeting held in the west are pleased with the outcome.

Dr E. J. Nolan—I thought the meeting as good as the average A. L. A. The journey to the coast and to Alaska certainly may be counted epochs in one's experience and of the most delightful character. I am highly pleased that I came.

Irene Warren—To me the association of so many earnest librarians for several weeks meant more than the A. L. A. meetings. The program had so much in it that has been said so many times before, that I enjoyed the people more than the meetings.

J. C. Dana—It was a meeting of more than usual interest. The necessity of traveling together so great a distance before the sessions was really an advantage. It gave opportunity for discussion and conference on many things which otherwise would not have been weighed. The trip itself was an education for many.

The opinions of some of the younger members may be of interest:

Miss Jessie Millard, Portland—I expected a greater dealing in personalities. I was struck by the discussion of subjects rather than a recital of experiences and personal conditions.

Miss Mary Banks, Seattle—It seems to one who, perhaps, has idealized the A. L. A. meetings and having no acquaintance with them except through reports, that only a few members were in charge of things. Inasmuch as the institute will probably include those of the inner circle hereafter, it seems to me the A. L. A. will gradually disintegrate to the benefit of the state and other sectional associations. Those on this coast will hardly feel like going long distances to hear things said over and over by these same people.

Katherine McMicken, Seattle—It has been a thoroughly enjoyable experience to see and hear in person those members of the A. L. A. whose words of wisdom we have been reading for so many years. It has helped us in many ways, professionally and personally, to meet the eastern librarians.

Louise Russell, Alliance, Ohio—I had no idea library people were so nice. It has meant a great deal to me to have the privilege of talking to such men as Mr Dewey, Mr Andrews, Mr Smith, Dr Robinson, Mr Crunden, Mr Gould, Mr Hill and others on the difficulties in my work. The time of association was too short to say and hear half that I wanted to discuss.

What The Oregonian Saw in the A. L. A.*

Public libraries

During the past five days Portland has entertained the twenty-seventh annual session of the American library association. Their meetings have been marked by great earnestness, and many of the papers were very able. To the ordinary booklover a peep has been given behind the scenes of the great libraries of America. We all know the impression of orderliness, and of detail carried to the fartherest point, when, on entering any of the well-known public libraries on special information bent, the very civil attendant receives our request, finds book after book, and at once shows real interest in our quest, and seems ready to apologize, as for a personal injury, if any sought-for work is not at once available. There is the finished work of the library—the book, the catalog, the librarian, and the reader. These association people have been discussing before us the steps by which this has all been wrought out, the present condition of the librarian's art, and the possibilities of still further improvement. In general terms, of course, the aim of the librarian is to bring the book and the reader together. But to do this effectively the library must be well stocked and filled. Can private gifts, bequests, subscriptions, be relied on as adequate? Most states are answering this question by passing library laws, and filling and supporting the libraries by the proceeds of public taxes. The association tells us that this movement is spreading, and in the way to become universal.

But the library and its keeper have two objects. One is to collect and make available new ideas. This appeals to but a limited number—but is surely of great advantage to the body politic. It assists and informs the seeker, and, in most instances, encourages humility by showing him how little he knows in comparison with the vast sum of gathered learning on his special subject.

The second great purpose of the li-

brary is to scatter common knowledge over an ever-widening field. So say the librarians, filled with the pride of their calling, and putting "knowledge" as the end and prize of reading. It is just like all professionals and specialists—exalting the marble coldness of the goddess of wisdom over the living, breathing, loving diety, to whom Paris, old or modern, ever yields the golden apple. The booklover is he, after all, who, in its pages, finds the delightful hour of life, who so makes friends not only with the real but with the fancied heroes and heroines of the books—who travels with the travelers from Herodotus to Nansen and Sven Hedin—who so follows the soldier's footsteps from Xenophon to the Conscript and Waterloo—who stands on the floor of Congress and Parliament and hears, through the printed page, the speeches which burn and thrill. Such an one reads, not to know, but to enjoy, and so gets out the living soul of the author, live or dead. Thus does culture, rather than knowledge, spread. The librarians tell us of so directing reading that the young may make better citizens, the immigrants absorb American ideas and the nations of the Orient be led into the ways of American civilization. More power to them in all this! But we put in a saving clause in favor of the average, grown-up, well-educated American citizen of today. They pay the taxes, from them the librarians are taken, they want the chance, not to be taught, but to enjoy, and to grow by enjoying, books. Librarians, after all, make up the machinery by which, as said before, the man and the book come together. Their art is most necessary, most intricate, most praiseworthy. Their ideals and purposes are high. Their industry is never tiring. The special objects they have just now before them are said to be a central home for their association, and a co-operative system of cataloging books, showing where all books are. We can not aid them, but we can all wish them success, and thank them, individually and collectively, for unnumbered services to the reading people of the United States.

Social Side of A. L. A. Conference

The social side of the A. L. A. sojourn in Portland was sufficiently in evidence to afford a pleasant atmosphere to the association, but not of so vigorous a character as to consume too much time and strength to the detriment of the more serious business. The social event of the week was the reception on Wednesday afternoon when the members of the board of trustees, with their wives, the members of the library commission and the secretary, Miss Marvin, Miss Isom of the Portland library association and two or three others gave an elegant reception to the visiting librarians in the rooms of the Portland Art association. The very good collections with which the walls of the rooms were lined, the magnificent display of roses, palms, cut flowers, and the holiday attire both of the hostesses and the guests presented a scene of beauty. The proverbial cordiality of the Pacific coast was much in evidence and the informality of the gathering added much to the pleasure of the occasion. Several hours were spent in pleasant intercourse between the guests and in admiring the art collection at hand. Dainty refreshments were served by charming young ladies of Portland, and altogether the occasion was a festive one.

The Portland public library was open to the visitors at all hours, but on Wednesday afternoon it was especially receptive to guests who went from the art building over to the library. Flowers and souvenir cards were distributed and the whole library was open to the inspection of the visitors in an instructive and attractive way. The library is well fitted up, apparently well organized and has a prosperous, progressive air. A collection of rare books in special bindings, a number of histories of the Northwest and some special collections elicited admiration.

On Saturday the librarians were guests of the Portland library board in a most delightful trip to the Dells of the Columbia river on a boat chartered for the occasion. Though the heat of the day

was intense, unprecedented for 30 years as the hosts of the occasion declared, still the scenery along the banks of the river, the salmon traps and the fruit farms afforded the greatest interest to the visitors. A dinner was served aboard the vessel of a most substantial and satisfying kind, and, take it all in all, the occasion was one of great pleasure to the visitors. The return in the evening was free from much of the heat in the early part of the day and consequently much more enjoyable.

Of course the Lewis and Clark exposition was an excuse for little companies to gather to inspect its exhibits. Being librarians, the educational exhibits and the library exhibit at the Government building must have been the chief points of interest, but somehow their conversation was about other things.

A number of visiting librarians were able to accept special invitations to ride about the city. The view from the hilltops attracted many to form parties and enjoy the unusual spectacle of mountains and water, beautiful homes, snow and sunshine, flowers and fruit spread out in a panorama never to be forgotten. The hospitality of Mrs J. E. Hoffman in her country bungalow, a short distance from the city of Portland, was enjoyed by those fortunate enough to be present at the sumptuous repast, served in the open air.

When the special train load of librarians arrived in the Washington hotel in Seattle on their way to Portland, those who were fortunate enough to be of that party found their rooms decorated profusely with fresh flowers sent up with the compliments of the library staff of the Seattle public library. A trolley car ride around the city was also tendered the visitors. A like courtesy was extended by the library board of Tacoma when that city was reached by the travelers en route to Portland. Thus from one day to another, as occasion offered, people of the various places offered such hospitality and courteous attention to the travelers as made them feel that they were not strangers in a strange land.

**Pre-sessional Proceedings of the A.
L. A., 1905**

The "pre-sessional proceedings" this year were much more extensive than usual, covering no less than 3500 miles. About 30 travelers left New York city June 26, and were joined at 10 p. m. at Albany by the two Boston "specials" full of a choice selection of New England librarians, plus the president and his wife, who for some reason had concluded to travel as from Massachusetts. Did they think this might carry more prestige with the Oregonians? And, here, too, we met the Placid philosopher of Albany, but he suddenly decided to travel to Portland later. We missed him on the trip very much—except possibly the happy man who gained a Pullman compartment by the change.

That night through New York state we slept—a practice later given up by many who found the charm of Alaskan sunny nights too great a lure to resist. At Buffalo we gathered into fold the Washington and Philadelphia tourists, and began to collect the Carr family, a process successfully completed at Detroit shortly after noon. We now were speeding westward as a special train some two hours ahead of the regular schedule, very happy with old acquaintances or new-found friends. Mr Green was lurching with Miss Pease in the dining car—a most appropriate juxtaposition for such an occasion, as the genial ex-president immediately exclaimed on being introduced to his table companion.

To be turned loose in Chicago for a three hours' walk at night was the appalling fate awaiting us. A few timid ones who had never before been in the "West," but had read of it in books, decided to stay in the Pullman and ride around the city rather than risk a trip through it. The majority, however, said they would "be switched" if they stayed on the cars, and wandered away, some to the Auditorium and Great Northern hotels, where they stocked up with—souvenir post cards; others to the Public library, where, arriving two hours ahead of time, a panic among the assistants

was narrowly averted through the cool-headedness of Mr Hild, who came quickly forward to welcome us to the library and city. Gradually assembling in the Union depot as train time drew near, we found many a friend ready to join the party, and we finally regained our cars and timid sisters at about 11 p. m. and started for St Paul. Arriving among the Twin cities after breakfast, we gathered up the final installment of our party and started for the coast de luxe.

All day Thursday we were on the rolling prairies of South Dakota, and Assiniboia, making frequent stops at way stations, where we swarmed out upon the landscape like bees from an overturned hive, only to be suddenly recalled by the long-drawn-out cry of "Board" when our engine had drunk its fill at the roadside tank. That we were the "largest train load of brains ever shipped across the continent," was most apparent from the picture-post-card flood we spread over the United States as we progressed. A mad rush for the newsstand was made at "each and every" station by "one and all." A peculiar literary flavor attaches to these short "p size" essays—in Canada obligingly on the face of the card, side of the address, so he who mails may (without loss of self-respect) read. As most of these choice bits are signed with initials only such as J. C. D., L. A., E. N., E. H., T., H. A. G., C. W. A., no one can tell by whom written, so we may without doubt be permitted to glance at a few:

Got a really artistic Japanese vase here for the librarian's office.

Sat on platform all day, much sunburned, only an orange for lunch. Expect to peel tomorrow.

Had a mean day yesterday, Prairie dusty. Wonder why N. Dakota is prohibition.

Three cranks and a perambulating question mark along, otherwise fine party.

We watched the stars long into the night from rear platform.

R. and I having time of our lives. Only eight men aboard train.

Showed my plans for new building to

another group of interested spectators today. Same result.

On Friday at breakfast we reached Calgary, refreshed by a fine sleep in the cool night. All recollections of the sudden shower which caught so many sight-seeing (or was it hunting post cards?) at Moose Jaw the night before were now pleasant, as we found the shower was provided by the Travel committee, as were others when needed to lay the dust in the Yellowstone or along the line of travel.

Some Calgary Indian squaws, rudely disturbed by the unconventional methods of our camera artists, closed in with bear-like grips on two of our party, and excitement ran high as we expected to see them carried off to the woods, if not torn limb from limb. But money hath charms to soothe the savage, and soon the captives were at liberty.

We reached Banff before noon, and left the train on the siding. The change from Pullman to hotel was, very welcome. How can one describe the charm of this valley among the Canadian Rockies—its winding river and rugged, snow-crowned peaks, its hot springs and wonderfully well kept hotel? Many took the Tunnel mountain drive, coming back by the Buffalo park and Sulphur springs; others climbed Sulphur mountain, or swam in the hot spring or took a row on Bow river. A few were content to sit upon the hotel piazza and simply drink in the view, so grand from every side, and one sinner was reputed to have spent that glorious afternoon in the manicure parlor; but let that pass as few knew of the occurrence.

On July 1, after a fine night's "stationary" sleep, we were early at the train, but not until 10 a. m. did an engine deign to come down from Laggan after us. The interim was pleasantly spent, and profitably, in cleaning our car windows, thus enhancing much the views during the rest of the trip. Photographs of the A. L. A. "cleaners" in action may be had of any photographer.

Who can describe the ride from Banff westward? All that day we passed snow-capped crags on either side and

climbed through winding gorges, or coasted down deep canyons. Nothing in Switzerland can equal this. Up Bow river past Laggan, with Mounts Temple and Le Froy looming high above us, then a short halt on the very ridge pole of the continent, where we left the train long enough to see the two little streams starting from one spring and flowing one into the Gulf of Mexico, the other into the Pacific ocean.

Then on again down the canyon of the Kicking Horse river between Mt Field and Mt Stephen, superb peaks, past the Ottertail and Van Horne range. Our supply of adjectives was soon exhausted and we sat dumb, simply pointing now and then to some new pinnacle or glacier that a curve in the track brought into view. Toward supper time we left Columbia river behind, and after a short time in company with the Beaverfoot river our train ascended Rogers pass to Glacier house, where a stop of three hours was made that we might climb the mountain trail to see and feel a real glacier. The few who attempted this climb ponyback created a pleasant diversion for the rest and an excellent appetite for themselves. We can never forget the wonderful scenery of this day; the cloud effects added much, and the fact that for a month the higher peaks had not before shown their heads added to the pleasure. Our Newark brother ceased for a time to talk of Japan and Indian baskets, and began to philosophize on the agricultural impossibilities of the region (see interviews in Seattle "P. I." July 2).

July 2 was again a treat, though the finest scenery was the day before. The landscape now became less rocky and more wooded as we ran down the valley of the Fraser river. At Sumas we again entered the United States, and very soon the indefatigable Mr "Seattle" Smith met the train, welcoming us to his state and telling of its wonders until we reached Seattle, where our hotel rooms at the Washington were transformed into veritable bowers of roses by Mr Smith's assistants in the library. Monday we trolleyed up and down Seattle

and in the afternoon took the "Flyer" on beautiful Puget sound to Tacoma, where another brace of electric cars was put at our disposal for a view of this city and its park. The gardener begged each to "Tacoma" bunch of Oregon roses. After a satisfying dinner at the hotel we again found our train, which had begun to seem like home to us, and were off for Portland, our journey's end.

But alas, with a new conductor who did not call "Board," it was soon discovered that we had left five of our party to "watch Tacoma grow." As this omission was quickly discovered, we had but to back up a mile or so to recover the wanderers. Then the agony of the misplaced bags was enacted and we slept where rolls the Oregon, till awakened by Miss Isom's committee, we were sorted into our hotels, and the pre-sessional trip was over.

Post Conference to Alaska

The preparation and confusion incidental to getting off on the City of Seattle, setting sail for Alaska on Tuesday evening, July 11, were probably not different from that of any ordinary party of 150 tourists, but to the uninitiated the bewilderment was almost overpowering. Those in charge of the matter, however, seemed to overcome all of the difficulties, and it was with a keen sense of pleasure that the tourists watched the receding lights of the real city of Seattle from the deck of her namesake.

Seattle is a city set on many hills and the municipality is not stingy in the matter of electric lights, so that the glow waved bon voyage to us for many miles after the start. Wednesday morning we found ourselves in the harbor at Vancouver with information at hand that the boat would remain there until at least midday. This meant sight-seeing in Vancouver, and many parties were seen wending their way in different directions through the quaint town. Before a great distance had been covered it was seen that something was exciting the interest of the inhabitants. The eastern contingent, of course, thought it was

because of their presence, though they were somewhat at a loss to understand why orange ribbon was so abundantly displayed. One was heard to ask why they should decorate in orange for librarians. There were some, however, whose native instincts, inheritance from worthy ancestors, rebelled at the sight of the orange display. Those so affected led the way into the woods, sure that here plenty of green would be found. The trolleys carried large numbers to the beautiful park on the edge of the town where still remains a number of the forest giants exciting the most intense admiration in even the extremely languid. A tree 32 feet in circumference is not to be met with every day, and the sight afforded much pleasure and wonderment to those who saw it. The shops of various sorts, particularly those in the Japanese quarters, yielded up their contents in exchange for "bits."

The Carnegie library was visited, though one had to run the gauntlet of the Orangemen crowded around its basement in rank after rank. The Carnegie building here is a fine example of "how not to do." It has been said of this building that many partitions were put in simply for the sake of using up the Carnegie donation. One can well believe it in looking at what just escapes being a monstrosity of a building. The head librarian himself is a courteous old gentleman, though the term assistants, which is applied to the other persons in the library, is certainly a misnomer. The equipment of the library is poor both in fittings and books. If this institution meets the wants of Vancouver it may be said of them with certainty that they "want but little here below."

The vessel finally set sail, after many false warnings, at 4 p. m. We sailed until late at night between beautiful islands, and toward evening the snow-covered mountains appeared. One says late, referring to the hours of the clock, for at no time was the term applicable to the feeling of the hour. While it was yet early evening apparently, the approach of the dawn became perceptible.

Thursday morning everyone started out bravely enough to enjoy the day, but by ten o'clock only a few were to be seen; the swell of the ocean at Queen Charlotte Sound had won the victory. No one is willing to tell the experience of the time from ten until one. In the afternoon the boat had again taken its way between the islands and serenity and pleasure abounded. In the afternoon a stop was made at New Metlakahktla to see Father Duncan and his Indian mission. The interesting story of this clergyman's removal from his original parish into the territory of the United States is too well known to repeat. The inhabitants of the islands appear fairly intelligent and fairly well dressed and it was hard to realize that in the beginning of Father Duncan's administration they were all cannibals. The party gathered in the church and was entertained by a reminiscent talk from Father Duncan himself, whose personality clearly shows the secret of his success. After a couple of hours very pleasantly spent the boat sailed on. In the evening a stop was made and everybody was rowed ashore to see a deserted Indian village. Here were found over 100 different totem poles, the most remarkable collection of these interesting specimens seen anywhere in the trip. For some reason, whether on account of famine, disease or what not, everyone had departed from this village of, perhaps, a hundred houses, many of which contained a large number of the various articles of furniture, left as if the whole population had simply moved out taking only themselves. Probably the story of this village, Kassan, is to be found somewhere, but there was no one at hand to tell of its desertion.

The visits to Wrangell and Ketchikan were full of interests of various sorts. Wrangell is a mixture of the old and new, being one of the oldest settlements in Alaska, containing the old fort and quarters of the army, the new canning and lumber industries, the homes of the Indians, both of the new and old régime, and, of course, the innumerable curio shops to be found in all these frontier

towns. The *Alaska Sentinel*, a weekly paper, compares favorably with its kind in the States. Ketchikan is a busy, live, seemingly progressive town, built on the side of steep hills with a tumultuous mountain stream dividing it into two parts. The plank walk for some distance back into the forest along the edge of the gorge filled the travelers with admiration and comfort as it gave opportunity for the much-needed exercise. The situation of this town is beautiful and one could look with pleasure on the idea of staying there for a considerable length of time in the summer. At Ketchikan we saw a library without any particular sign of use. There was a fine collection of beautiful minerals here which caused a feeling of envy in the heart of the Vermonter, at the sight of the exquisite marble, as he saw the possibilities of the future as it might affect his native state. The scenery through the Narrows, with glaciers, snow-covered mountains, blue haze, placid waters, green forests and blue skies, was indescribably beautiful.

At Tonka, at Douglas and at Juneau there was a scattering of the forces during the sight-seeing of the town, which consisted largely of curio shops, though at the last place the government building was quite worth seeing and the view from some of the elevations was worth every step of the hard climb to obtain it. An interesting fact in the stop at Juneau was the unloading here of a collection of books which had been gathered through the instrumentality of Miss Plummer of Pratt institute, with a thought of leaving a nucleus for what might grow into a public library. After a heavy exchange of material to be found in the various shops for the coin of the travelers, the boat was headed to the Treadwell crushers. This is the largest affair of its kind on the continent, and the couple of hours spent here was most interestingly employed in various peeps at the operations necessary to take the quartz from the earth and carry it into the various crushers, separators and what not, in the multitude of processes necessary to extract the gold ore.

At a late hour by the clock the boat headed for Skagway, which was reached early Sunday morning, the beginning of a cold and gray day. This historic place was found practically deserted. Its hour of fame had passed with the day of the pack train, when the miners were making the efforts of their lives to reach the gold fields beyond. Now there is a railway following the side of the mountains over White Horse pass and the substance of Skagway greatness has departed. A special train was gotten together and most of the party went up White Horse pass and to the boundary line at Bennett. Words would fail to describe the environment of that ride. Mountains, bold, rugged, snow-capped, towering on every side, and cloud effects of infinite variety added to the grandeur of gorge, torrent and falls. The climb to the summit gave an experience that is not often equaled by librarians and will probably never be repeated under the same circumstances. The return in the afternoon was made with regret, but the boat was scheduled to sail at two o'clock and there was no time to linger. This Sunday afternoon was probably the most varied in its aspects and scenery of any during the voyage. Glaciers, icebergs, rain and cloud effects too awful, too beautiful, and too varied for words to describe, filled the afternoon until the late evening when the sun flashed out across the ice fields, presenting a scene as unreal and indescribable as anything the mind could imagine. It was something of a disappointment that the state of the weather did not allow the landing at Davidson glacier as had been planned for, but the hour was unpropitious and our careful captain did not take the risk.

On Monday we had a rainy day with much fog, and in the evening when Sitka was reached it was what might be termed wet without fear of exaggeration. Nevertheless the undismayed tourists spread through the town bargaining, buying, begging and otherwise procuring from shops and Indians those things which met their fancy. The battleships *Marblehead* and *Chicago*, with a torpedo

destroyer, were in the harbor, and Gov. Brady was extending the compliment of a reception to their officers. An invitation was kindly extended to the librarians, many of whom availed themselves of an opportunity to take a look at high life in "the provinces."

The anthropological museum at Sitka was extremely interesting, and a very delightful time was spent in studying the various phases of life of the natives at different periods. The Indians here, as elsewhere in the Northwest, are different from their eastern kin, being smaller in stature and more languid and gentle in bearing. They show much of the results of deplorable contact with the whites in the same way one may meet it in other parts of the United States.

The A. L. A. council held several meetings and the A. L. I. committee put in some hours of earnest discussion; these things, with desultory talk of library matters, formed the serious part of the intercourse aboard ship. Moonlight parties, daylight parties, teas, "snap shooting," and a good deal of what savored somewhat of gossip, occupied a large share of the time of many.

The return trip was begun at noon on Monday. The skies were not propitious and much bad weather was encountered. The boat machinery was disabled and a very unique experience was that of having the boat beached at St Petersburg for several hours while repairs were made. It was a curious sensation, to many unpleasant, on awakening to find the boat tilted, say to an angle of 30 degrees. But the indefatigable sight-seers were not deterred, for they climbed down the ladder on the side of the boat, some were carried and some waded ashore. When the tide came in at noon the repairs had been made, the boat had been righted and sailed on its way with no ill effects beyond the disappointment caused by the news that the delay would cut out the promised visit to Victoria. The boat sailed straight back to Seattle, reaching there early Saturday morning, July 22. Here the final separation took place and a large party started for the Yellow-

stone; still another party flanked directly east, and about 20 started for San Francisco. There were others who remained in the neighborhood of Seattle and Portland, and one came across members of the A. L. A. in various parts of the western country for many a day after the adjournment at Portland.

Thus ended the delightful post-conference trip all too soon for everybody. It was enjoyable, instructive, restful and will long be remembered with pleasure. Too much can not be said of the indefatigable watchfulness, of the kindness and courtesy of Capt. C. J. O'Brien, his officers and crew. No manner of provocation or demand on time and patience ruffled the good-natured captain, and everything possible was done to make the passengers comfortable and happy and to give them as full a view of what they wanted to see as could be crowded into the largest amount of time allowable. A ringing vote of thanks to the officers and crew of the vessel, passed on the last evening out, carried the appreciation of the passengers to them.

The Visit to California

Saturday morning, July 22, there was a hurrying off from aboard ship and a hurrying on aboard trains of the score or more who chose the California trip instead of Yellowstone. It was an uncomfortable journey southward and a dearth of means of betterment prevailed. A wreck at Granite Pass caused a wait of several hours, and the realization of the shortening of the time at Sacramento in consequence did not make the intense heat more bearable. It was 1.30 p. m. Monday before Sacramento was reached, and though the time was too short for visiting beyond the State capitol and State library, the cordial welcome received there made much amends. A number of librarians joined the party, so that about 30 were housed at California hotel, San Francisco, Monday night.

There had been a party of librarians in San Francisco and vicinity about two weeks previous to this time, so that the

local hosts were in good working order for dispensing hospitality when the second party arrived. In both cases visits were made to the public libraries at Oakland, Alameda and University of California, as well as Leland-Stanford university. The visitors were delighted with the library buildings at both universities. The Greek theater at Berkeley interested everybody, and the eastern librarians felt a little bit in the shade when thinking of their own quarters. As one of the party expressed it, in the matter of building and organization, at least, the two university libraries will be quite "in it" with the best when their buildings are finished.

Inasmuch as the president of the A. L. A., Dr Richardson, is a university librarian, the librarians at both Stanford and Berkeley were specially kind in offering attentions. Little addresses of welcome were made at both places and toasts and speeches were offered at the collations served. The chief event of the California visit, however, was the dinner at the Union League club in San Francisco on Tuesday night. About 100 guests were seated, two-thirds of whom, perhaps, were library people together with prominent business and professional men of San Francisco.

The mayor greeted the people. Not the least good was the impression they made upon him, inclined hitherto to indifference, if nothing worse, toward library activities.

A number of speeches were made by Dr Richardson, Mr Hopkins and Mr Hovey, but the chief address was that of Mr Dewey. For the hosts of the occasion Mr Davis acted as toastmaster, and addresses were made by Dr Moore, Mr Lemmon, Mr Tausig and Mr Law. The entertainment was a handsome one in every way and wit and good humor was prevalent from start to finish. The menu was very interesting as may be seen by the following:

Catalogue

OLIVES Between Whiles	PICKLES A Remedy for Love	RADISHES The Simple Life
CAVIAR He that Eateth Bread with Me		

Sauterne Life's Handicap	CONSUMMÉ IN CUP Pot of Broth
BROILED STRIPED BASS À LA MEUNIÈRE Deep-Sea Plunderings	
PARISIENNE POTATOES Children of the Soil	
Shasta Water Virginibus Puerisque	SWEETBREAD CROQUETTES AU MACÉDOINE Much Ado About Nothing
Woman Punch The Gladiators	
ROAST LARDED TENDERLOIN OF BEEF England's Ideal	
NEW GREEN PEAS All in a Garden Fair.	MASHED POTATOES Irish Idylls
SLICED TOMATOES WITH MAYONNAISE The Redskins	Claret In the Cheering up Business
VANILLA ICE CREAM Snow Bound	ASSORTED CAKES For Each and All
CHEESE AND CRACKERS Hard Times	
FRUIT The Californians	
CAFÉ NOIR Coffee and Repartee	

The morning of the last day of the stay in San Francisco was taken up by a fine coach ride through Golden Gate park to Cliff house and return, as guests of the California library association. In the afternoon the time was spent in visiting the local libraries, where cordial welcome was extended. The visitors left with warmest feelings of gratitude toward their hosts of the occasion, and many a traveler carried with him eastward a secret wish that his lot might be cast permanently among such delightful people.

A number of librarians from first to last drifted south in California to Los Angeles, particularly those who were specially interested in the complications surrounding Miss Jones of the Public library. The friends of the latter held a reception for the visiting librarians, and Mr Dewey was invited to make an address. A ride about the city and to the orange groves at Pasadena was very much enjoyed. The Rev. Mr Robinson of Philadelphia was the only one heard expressing disappointment, and he felt a loss because he had not seen a tamale tree.

Pacific Coast Librarians' Meeting Portland, Ore., July 5, 1905

Representatives of the library associations of Washington, Oregon and California met in the Art association's building on July 5. Joy Lichtenstein, Public library, San Francisco, presided and H. C. Coffman, University of Washington library, Seattle, acted as secretary.

William L. Webster, president of the Oregon library association, in an introductory address reviewed the library situation of the Pacific coast, particularly the Northwest, and dwelt especially upon the benefits to the library interests of the section the meeting of the A. L. A. would give.

Mr Greene, trustee California State library, introduced the following resolutions in regard to the removal of Mary L. Jones as librarian of the Los Angeles public library:

Whereas, the librarians of the Pacific coast, in convention assembled, have heard with sorrow not unmixed with indignation of the sudden dismissal from her position of the librarian of the Los Angeles public library, Mary L. Jones; Therefore be it

Resolved, That this association extends to Miss Jones its sympathy, recognizing in her a librarian by talent, training and temperament, worthy to fill any position in our profession. The Los Angeles library under her able direction has in many ways served as a model for us all.

Resolved, That we deplore the dismissal, without cause, of a trained librarian for the purpose of putting in a person who, however talented and successful in other lines of work, has had no library training or experience. We regard our profession seriously and count such an action as a blow to the whole library cause.

Resolved, That we hope this striking example of the evil that politics may do in library matters will lead to a reformation in library standards, so that some real method of determining fitness for library positions may be enacted into law. We believe that librarianship is a profession so responsible that it should be entrusted, as in the case of teachers and professional men generally, only to those properly certified by a competent examining body.

Mr Rowell, C. W. Smith, Miss Russ and Mr Ripley clearly presented the situation to the meeting. The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Papers were read as follows: Conditions in Washington, C. W. Smith, li-

brarian Seattle public library; Library conditions in Oregon, W. L. Brewster, president Oregon association; Sources of northwestern history, Prof. Joseph Schafer, University of Oregon; Library conditions in northern and central California, L. W. Ripley, librarian Sacramento public library; and California as a place of residence for the scholar, M. G. Dodge, librarian Leland Stanford junior university.

Following the reading of the papers the meeting adjourned to attend the general reception to librarians.

Special meeting

A special meeting of the librarians of the Pacific coast was called on July 7, by Mr Lichtenstein, for the purpose of considering the telegram from the board of directors of the Los Angeles public library, in reply to the action taken by the association in the meeting of July 5 relating to the removal of Mary L. Jones of said library. All members in attendance at the meeting of the A. L. A. were present.

The following telegram was read:

The removal of Mary L. Jones as librarian of the Los Angeles public library, was for good cause and not inspired by political or other improper motive. By the election of Charles F. Lumis as librarian, we have secured for the direction of an efficient library staff, high scholarship, distinguished literary merit and assured executive ability. In the interest of fair play please give this statement publicity. Signed J. W. Trueworthy, Isidore B. Dockweiler, Foster G. Wright, S. J. Marshutz, members of board of directors.

On motion of C. W. Smith, Seattle public library, and after a discussion of the motives of the directors in forwarding the said telegram with the request for publicity, the document was tabled.

H. C. COFFMAN, Sec.

Interesting Publications

Bibliography of child study for the year 1904, by Louis N. Wilson, forms No. 7 of Vol. 1 of publications of the Clark university library.

Finding list of books for the blind deposited in Public library of Cincinnati, by the Cincinnati library society for the blind, has been issued.

The Buffalo public library has issued a short reading list entitled 'The world's peace, "in celebration of the meeting of the Russian and Japanese commissioners."

Vol. 1, No. 1, of the *Bibliographical register* has appeared, issued by Williams & Norgate of London. It will appear quarterly and deal with bibliography and historical printing.

The Carnegie library of Pittsburg has issued an annotated catalog of books used in the home libraries and reading clubs conducted by its children's department.

The quarterly *Library circular* for July, issued by the Sunderland (Eng.) public library, contains, besides additions to the library, an interesting and helpful article on How to read Ruskin, and also contributions to a bibliography of Durham and Northumberland.

A committee of the L. A. U. K., consisting of Cyril Davenport of the British museum library, J. P. Edmond, Signet library, Edinburgh, Dr J. G. Parker, Leather industries laboratory, London, and E. Wyndham Hulme, Patent office library, a sound leather committee, has issued a most interesting and instructive little volume under the title of *Leather for libraries*. It treats of the tanning and manufacture of leather, causes of decay, characteristics and values of modern leathers, repairing and binding of books for public libraries, and specifications for the fittings of a small bindery. The material of the book is furnished by those specially prepared and knowing the subjects which they present, so that what is offered is worth while to consider. The volume is an 8vo, 54 p., has an index and contains six samples of leather. Price 1s. 6d.

The *Library association record* for August, 1905, contains a very interesting and most helpful article on catalogs for children. It is described as An examination of some hitherto neglected features of cataloging, with a code of rules. The article is the work of W. C. Berwick Sayers and James D. Steward of Croydon public libraries. The article has been reprinted in separate form.

National Educational Association
Library department

The meetings of the Library department of the N. E. A. for 1905 were very largely attended owing to the accessibility of the meeting place, the subjects on the program, the presence of speakers of reputation and the personal efforts of those interested to have it so. The fact that a large number of librarians in the East did not attend the A. L. A. meeting this year made it possible for them to be present at the N. E. A. meetings. The meetings were held in the assembly room of the Public library at Asbury Park. About 250 persons were present at the meeting on Thursday afternoon, July 6.

The president, C. P. Carey of Wisconsin, opened the meeting with an address on Libraries for villages and rural communities. He said: The United States census bulletin No. 16 for 1900 states that 52.9 per cent of the total population live in unincorporated communities. Rural communities having fewer distractions think more of what they read and the comparative influence of good books is much greater than in larger communities. Most of the money expended for libraries goes to cities and towns.

It would be possible to arrange school buildings in small places so one room be set aside for a library to be used by both the school and the public, and one teacher be chosen with the definite purpose of giving part of her time to acquainting the school and the public with the books and the various sources of books and helpful literature for the class of people in the community.

The library schools do not train their students with the small library of the country in mind. By small library they mean those in smaller cities. Simpler methods are needed for these small libraries. It is not too much to say that the larger share of advice that teachers receive from trained librarians and from the text-books on library science bewilders rather than enlightens. Sources of literature such as United States De-

partment of agriculture sending out valuable material should be more widely known.

Dr J. H. Canfield gave a report on Library training in normal schools. This will be printed and distributed by the N. E. A.

Florence M. Hopkins, librarian of Central high school, Detroit, gave an address on Methods of instruction in the use of libraries (P. L. 10:170-172) which met with great favor.

Mr Scott of Boston presented the subject of pound rates for public libraries, urging the support of the bill now before Congress providing for a rate of 1 cent a pound.

The discussions of the papers presented were lively and many of them good, though the speaker who always wanders far from the theme was not absent.

The second session was held on Friday morning, and there were at least 500 persons present. After every available chair in the little library building had been utilized, many stood and some sat on the floor. Many continued to come all morning and while some left, the hall was crowded at the close of a three-hours' session.

The paper by Robert H. Wright of Baltimore college on How to make the library useful to high schools was one of the best papers presented. It will be given in full in *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* later.

Dr G. Stanley Hall was listened to with great interest as he spoke on What children do read and what they ought to read. (This paper is given on page 391.)

The last paper was presented by Percival Chubb of New York on Value and place of fairy tales and folk stories in the education of children, and was full of interest.

The committee on resolutions reported as follows:

1 Resolved, That the Library department of the N. E. A. earnestly endorses the proposition presented by Mr Scott in the efforts made to secure the transmission of library books intended for general circulation at a rate not to exceed one cent per pound for postage.

2 Resolved, That it is the sense of this department that all teachers should learn at least the

elementary essentials of library administration and circulation.

3 Resolved, That it is the opinion of this body that all teachers should do some expert work in that branch of child-study which leads to ascertaining the reading tastes of children of various ages, and that they should endeavor to minister intelligently to these tastes by becoming acquainted at first hand with the contents of as many as possible of the books recommended.

4 Resolved, That individually and as a body we will do all we can to encourage state aid to libraries, including the work of library commissions, inter-state library loans, and extension work.

5 Resolved, That the members of this department urge the officers of the American library association and of the National educational association to take measures to secure either a joint meeting of the two associations or meetings which shall be so near each other as to time and place as to permit the interchange of members and programs—in the interest of coördinating the public schools and the public libraries.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

J. N. Wilkinson of Emporia, Kan., was chosen president for next year, which insures another successful meeting.

Miss Ahern, who has been secretary of the department since its organization, with the exception of 1897-98, was not present owing to the meeting of the A. L. A. at the same time. The duties of secretary were performed by Ruth Yeomans, librarian of Asbury Park, N. J.

For some occult reason, it is not half so irritating to find out for yourself that none of the long list of novels you desire is in, as to be told so by a patient attendant over a counter, after a long search on her part and an impatient wait on yours. You are certain that through the wicket which bars you out you see the alluring red cover of *The marriage of William Ashe*, and that the deceitful library attendant is saving it for a friend; whereas, if you are allowed to look for yourself, although you find that particular red book to be but a deceptively new edition of *Uncle Tom's cabin*, and nothing upon your list in, yet your attention is ultimately diverted to a book which looks interesting, and you go away tolerably well satisfied, with at least the consciousness that you have the free use of your own public library.

Ohio Library Association

The eleventh annual meeting of the Ohio library association will be held at Cleveland and Bass lake October 11-18.

The library school of Western Reserve university will hold a reception Wednesday evening, October 11, to which the librarians are invited. Thursday will be spent visiting Cleveland libraries under the guidance of the local committee. In the evening the party will go by trolley cars to Bass lake, a two-hours' ride, round trip fare 90 cents. The association will occupy a club house on the shore of Bass lake entirely at the disposal of the association. The cost will be \$2 a day.

An interesting program has been arranged for Friday and Saturday, in which the various library interests will be discussed. A number of visitors from outside the state will be present.

A delightful rest will be afforded to those who will remain over Sunday at Bass lake, and an opportunity will then be given to attend the library institute held in Cleveland the first three days of the next week, October 16-18, by the committee on library training, Miss Doren, chairman.

The subjects to be offered at the institute include bookbinding and repair, reference work, cataloging, library records and work for children. These subjects will be given by the faculty of the Western Reserve library school. Cedric Chivers of England has promised to be present, and a rare opportunity will be offered to hear this specialist in bookbinding in two addresses. Further detailed information as to the institute may be had by addressing Miss Doren, Library school, Western Reserve university, Cleveland.

Library Week at Lake Placid, N. Y.

The New York library association will hold its annual meeting September 23-October 2, at the Lake Placid club in the Adirondacks, giving opportunity for 10 days of sessions, informal conferences and outdoor pleasures.

The topics announced include: The

president's address, which will present the general theme of the meeting; The public library a public service; The library service in the making of new Americans, a discussion of responsibility toward our foreign-born population, by Dr Canfield of Columbia university, followed by a discussion on the use of books in foreign languages; Some recent books and why, by Caroline H. Garland, librarian of the Dover (N. H.) public library and editor of the *A. L. A. booklist*; As others see us, a review of library comment and criticism in the periodicals of the year; What the library of a local historical society should be, by F. H. Severance, secretary of the Buffalo historical society; What a public library can do to arouse interest in local history; Special collections in the library, by E. W. Gaillard of the New York public library staff, and Inter-library loans.

Several informal round table meetings will be held. One of them will take up matters of interest to small libraries, one for children's librarians, conducted by Annie Carroll Moore of the Pratt institute free library, will discuss Sensational picture papers and good picture books; another, in charge of Corinne Bacon of Albany, will be devoted to the discovery of simple methods and the elimination of red tape. A round table on cataloging may be held.

The following boards of the American library association will meet at Lake Placid during library week: The A. L. A. council, the A. L. A. executive board, the A. L. A. publishing board and the Organizing committee of the American library institute, established at the Portland meeting.

All who are interested in library work are invited to attend.

The daily expense, including meals and comfortable rooms, will be \$2 a day. Higher-priced rooms and baths will be charged at half price. It is expected that the New York Central will grant its usual special rate of one fare plus \$1 for the round trip.

To secure rooms, write to Asa O. Gallup, Lake Placid club, Essex Co., N. Y.

ELLEN M. CHANDLER, Sec.

Missouri Library Association

The sixth annual meeting of the Missouri library association will be held at Jefferson City, Mo., Oct. 24-26, 1905.

Program

Preliminary session, Tuesday, October 24, 2.45 p. m.

Address of welcome—Rev. John F. Hendy, president of the library board.

Greeting from the city and the state—Hon. Joseph W. Folk, governor of Missouri.

Response—Jas. T. Gerould, president Missouri library association.

3.30. A drive.

8.00. Address, followed by an informal reception in auditorium of the library building.

First session, Wednesday, October 25, 9.30 a. m.

Reports, announcements.

Rules and regulations governing borrowers should be flexible—to what extent; Liberal treatment of borrowers, Faith E. Smith, librarian, Sedalia.

Discussion, Margaret Blodgett, St Louis; O. K. Benecke, librarian, Brunswick.

Importance of bibliographies, for library clubs and for the librarian, Wm. L. R. Gifford, librarian Mercantile library, St Louis.

Modern children's catalogs, Lillian Kerr, St Joseph library; Helen Tutt, cataloger Public library, St Louis.

Registration.

Second session, Wednesday, 2 p. m.

Library extension, school work, special reading lists, club work, helps for college students, for professional men and mechanics, Olivia A. Parrish, librarian State normal school, Kirksville.

Round table discussion.

How to make libraries of interest to men, not only to women and children, F. M. Crunden, librarian, Public library, St Louis.

Discussion, Mrs Carrie Westlake Whitney, librarian, Kansas City, Purd B. Wright, librarian, St Joseph, Mrs Hughes, librarian, Richmond.

Use of Library of congress cards and other printed cards, James T. Gerould, State university, Columbia.

Discussion by experienced users of Library of congress cards and other printed cards.

9-11 p. m. Reception at the governor's mansion.

Third session, Thursday, October 26, 9.30 a. m.

Library commission bill, Purd B. Wright, librarian, St Joseph.

Discussion, Adelaide Thompson, librarian, Public library, Jefferson City, Judge Clark Crockett, trustee, Joplin.

Experience of a librarian in organizing a library and planning for immediate growth; detail work in small libraries, Elizabeth B. Wales, librarian, Carthage, Mrs Bessie Lee, librarian, Moberly, Lizzie Lingle, librarian, Hannibal, Carrie Wallace, librarian, Independence.

Traveling libraries, Mrs George L. Carpenter, St Louis.

Fourth session, Thursday, 2-4 p. m.

The selection and buying of books for small libraries, Sula Wagner, chief Catalog and order department, Public library, St Louis.

Discussion, Mary B. Swanwick, librarian, Joplin. Exchange of opinions to find solutions for some of the problems confronting library workers.

Business meeting of the Missouri library association.

Hotel rates: \$1.50 to \$2 a day at the Central, headquarters for the association.

Library Meetings

Massachusetts—The annual meeting of the Bay Path library club was held in the Charles Larned memorial library at Oxford, Thursday, June 29. There was a large and representative attendance of librarians, trustees and townspeople, and the meeting was one of great interest. The places represented in the attendance beside Oxford, were Boston, Boylston, Brimfield, Brookfield, Clinton, East Brimfield, East Douglas, Lancaster, Leicester, New Bedford, Millbury, Northampton, Palmer, Southbridge, Sturbridge, Warren, Webster, West Haven, Conn., and Worcester.

The session opened with an address of welcome by Dr Johnson R. Woodward, who was responded to by the president, Miss Tarbell.

The building in which the meeting was held is one of the finest in Massachusetts. It was opened in July, 1904. It was presented by Charles Larned of Boston, a native of Oxford, in memory of his mother. It is built of buff brick, trimmed with Millford pink granite, and cost over \$30,000. The interior is remarkably well lighted and well arranged and has received fine pictures for decorations. A remarkable feature is the beau-

tiful stained-glass window, representing a group from Cope's painting, The departure of the Pilgrims from Holland. The librarian, Mrs C. A. Fuller, has rendered efficient service for about 10 years.

An exceedingly clear and practical paper on Efficient library service was given by Dr Louis N. Wilson, librarian of Clark university. Dr Wilson spoke of the need of active public support, if the library is to do its best work for the community, and cautioned his hearers not to place too much emphasis upon the library alone. Robbed of the active help of all classes of citizens, it is robbed of its most useful quality. He pleaded for free access to the books, for liberal rules and liberal contributions of both time and money. He urged the placing of historical matter in the library. Dr Wilson urged upon library trustees the necessity of giving their best in time and effort to the library, and of coöperation with the librarian. He also deprecated the fact that private book buying is falling off, and showed the value of a home collection of chosen books. He warned his hearers against buying subscription books.

Dr Wilson was followed by Rev. Dr William G. Schoppe of Webster, who spoke on Public libraries in the West. Dr Schoppe has spent 10 years in the West, in Helena, Mont., and in Ohio, and has been instrumental in organizing several public libraries. After referring to the three educational forces in American life—the church, the school, the public library—Dr Schoppe said in part: The very idea of the great West enlarges the thought of the East. Emerson says, A continental element is infusing itself into the American mind. The West, rich in churches and schools, needs more of the influence of the public library. As to the character of reading, while the novel is a great educator and power, the library should focus more attention upon the great masters of literature. There should be an education of the public taste. The Cleveland library has done this with much success, putting biography and history within easy reach, and has reduced the reading of fiction to 50

per cent. The remarkable development and boundless resources of the West show that the problems of the future in literary and educational matters must be worked out on the Pacific coast. San Francisco is to be the London of the new world.

W. P. Cutter, librarian of Forbes library, Northampton, gave a short description of the printed catalog cards of the Library of congress. He explained the freedom with which books are loaned by Forbes library to others in the state.

A bountiful lunch was served at noon in the town hall by the ladies of the Universalist church.

The address of the afternoon session was by Edward T. Hartman of Boston, secretary of the Massachusetts civic league. Mr Hartman said in part:

The public library as a social center

The development of social and civic affairs in Massachusetts is in the direction of a more complete expression of the life and thoughts of the people. There are in Massachusetts some 200 village improvement societies, about 50 education associations and similar organizations, about 300 women's clubs, 251 granges, 115 towns observing "old home week," and other organizations, making a total of almost 1000. Their aim is to develop a better citizenship through direct educational processes and through the influence of an improved environment. These organizations are devoting themselves to a considerable extent to betterment work. As coöperating institutions, the libraries of the state have here a splendid opportunity. The public library, probably more than any other institution, is by its nature fitted to become a social center. People visit it without reference to party lines or religious creeds. Public libraries are the natural expression of the democratic ideal. If the librarian is tactful she has an opportunity that does not fall to the lot of any other individual. It is for the librarian to develop the exact amount of the library's usefulness. This can be done by all processes that

will bring people to the library for a full and free expression of the thought and will of the community. The library must supply educational stimulus, recreation, coöperation; the latter coming in at all points and in connection with all organized efforts for the betterment of the community. The librarian must take cognizance of every holiday, national or local, of every event of interest and of every movement of importance, and put the literature on those subjects within easy reach of all comers. She may also directly assist in the work of local betterment by exhibiting "before" and "after" pictures, and it would be possible at times to exhibit, or have exhibited elsewhere, pictures of plague spots in the community. By entering in these ways into the life of the community, the librarian may develop co-operative relations with the people and make her library a natural center for study and discussion of community affairs. She must in a measure ascertain the tastes of her various readers and keep them in touch with the best literature along the lines of these tastes.

It was voted that the president be instructed to take the necessary steps for the club to join the Massachusetts conference for town and village betterment, which is a branch of the Civic league.

The officers elected during the afternoon session were: President, Mary Anna Tarbell of Brimfield, vice-presidents, Dr Louis N. Wilson of Clark university and Mabel E. Knowlton of Shrewsbury; secretary, May E. Robinson of Palmer; treasurer, Mrs Clara A Fuller of Oxford.

Dodd, Mead & Co., have a new edition of Drummond's *Monkey* that would not kill, in a red cloth binding. It is called the library edition, and is printed as an experiment, to see if librarians really care for more durable books. The book is very popular and has been in a white cover, always very soiled because of its popularity among little children. Librarians should ask their dealers for this edition.

Library Schools

Amherst summer school

The fifteenth annual session of six weeks opened on July 3, with a class numbering 25: The course was pursued with the interest and enthusiasm which characterize library students everywhere. The pupils nearly all had some library experience before entering and the work done in the six weeks was of a more advanced character than has been possible with some classes. Great assistance was derived from the material furnished by the Library of congress, including their "sample catalogs." The principle adopted in teaching the writing of cards was that the L. C. cards should be followed as to form of entry, while written entries may be made less full and precise, especially for the smaller libraries whose needs are most consulted by the summer course.

Mr Fletcher announces that with this fifteenth session the Amherst summer school will be discontinued; but he is authorized to say that W. P. Cutter, librarian of the Forbes library at Northampton, Mass., will start a similar school next year. Mr Cutter has had experience in library instruction in connection with the Columbian university in Washington, D. C., and the facilities at the Forbes library are of the very best.

Mr Fletcher's retirement from this field is due to his feeling that after 15 years he needs a rest, and some release from the confinement in the summer which this work has entailed.

Chautauqua library school

The faculty included the following: Director, Melvil Dewey; Mary Emogene Hazelton, resident director; Mary E. Robbins, head instructor, on leave of absence; Mary L. Davis, head instructor for 1905; Frances L. Rathbone, instructor; Eugenia M. Henry, instructor.

The Chautauqua library school for 1905, July 8-August 19, had a class of 26, gathered from many sections of the country. Nine came from New York state, four from Ohio, three from Michigan, two from Pennsylvania, and one each from Canada, Massachusetts, Ne-

braska, Illinois, Tennessee, South Carolina, New Jersey and Washington, D. C. Eleven of these students are heads of libraries of moderate size, two are college librarians, two are in law and one in a medical library, the remainder of the class holding positions as assistants.

Adjustment of work to extremes of knowledge and experience was accomplished by dividing the class into two groups, for two days a week, each section spending a day every week in the James Prendergast free library at Jamestown for practice work with reference books, and in other practical details that can be demonstrated in a working library. Special instruction in cataloging and classification, according to the needs of the two divisions, was given in the classroom at Chautauqua on the alternate day.

The longer courses of instruction were cataloging, classification and reference work. Other departments of library work were treated briefly in one or two lectures by the resident instructor. Lectures were given in the morning as far as possible, leaving the afternoons free for practice work.

Mr Dewey made his annual visit to the school and gave his usual lectures. W. R. Eastman, New York state inspector of libraries, gave his usual course of talks on Library buildings. A. L. Peck, librarian of the Gloversville (N. Y.) free library, spent a week with the school. He gave lectures on Trade publications, Book buying and Public documents. William Van Scoter, librarian of the Buffalo Y. M. C. A., gave a lecture, with demonstrations, on the Mending of books.

The class had the advantage and the pleasure of listening to talks by Miss Bingham, an art instructor, on The composition of the illustrated bulletin, giving principles which should govern the arrangement of pictures and text; from Francis W. Halsey, on From the manuscript to the reader; from Dr Richard Burton, on Fiction and the librarian, and from Prof. S. C. Schmucker on the Evaluation of nature books. These lectures proved the advantage of expert discus-

sion on subjects of interest to librarians, and they were distinct contributions to the course.

Picture bulletins were borrowed from the Buffalo public library. Annual reports were distributed from a number of typical libraries; the discussion of these reports formed one of the valuable class exercises. Samples of books in process of rebinding were borrowed from the Chivers bindery in Brooklyn and from Mr Emerson's work in the Newark (N. J.) public library. The bindery of the *Arts and crafts* at Chautauqua was visited, also the plant of the Art Metal Construction Co. at Jamestown. A few of the class visited the Buffalo public library and the Roycroft shops.

The lectures of the library school were open to others through visitor's tickets, and librarians spending a few days at Chautauqua and trustees attended frequently. The faculty was also called upon for advice by those wishing to understand the library movement and to help in its extension in their own communities.

Indiana summer school

The fourth year's course in the school for librarians conducted by the Public library commission of Indiana was satisfactorily completed Aug. 15, 1905, by 19 of the 22 librarians who entered the class.

On account of the improvements at Winona Lake and the better location in the Mount memorial building so well adapted to school use, the librarians were afforded better facilities for their work than ever before. The additional experience of the instructors, their winter's field work and more abundant illustrative materials made the instruction more effective. Anna R. Phelps was head instructor, Ida M. Mendenhall, instructor in library and school coöperation and Sabra W. Vought, instructor in reference work. Merica Hoagland, dean of the school, gave the practical lectures on library administration.

During the school session, the Public library commission held its quarterly meeting and was pleased to have J. I.

Wyer, president of the Nebraska commission and secretary of the A. L. A., present to discuss library matters in general and Indiana's need in particular. Mr Wyer's lectures on Public documents and address on the A. L. A. given before the school were much appreciated as were also the talks given by Charles J. Barr, Lillian B. Arnold and others.

The Winona technical school at Indianapolis has made arrangements with the Indiana library commission, Merica Hoagland, secretary, to conduct a school in library economy, beginning Sept. 15, 1905. Anna R. Phelps, New York '02, will be head instructor.

Iowa summer school

The fifth annual session of the Iowa summer school for library training was held at Iowa City, June 19-July 29, as a part of the summer session of the State university.

The instruction in literary criticism given by Prof. Ansley of the university was a new feature of the school this year, and a similar course will be given in connection with future sessions, the value of the course in aiding librarians in their estimate of books being greatly appreciated.

Instruction in classification and book numbers was given by Miriam E. Carey, librarian of the Burlington (Iowa) public library, and Delia C. Sanford of the University library gave the instruction in cataloging, accessioning, etc. Reference work was given by Malcom G. Wyer, librarian of the university, who also gave two lectures on trade bibliography.

The special course in children's work during the last two weeks of the session, by Caroline F. Gleason, children's librarian of the Utica (N. Y.) public library, was practical and helpful as well as inspiring and suggestive. Various classes of books for young people were discussed, the decoration and furnishing of a children's room or corner, picture bulletins, etc.

There were 18 students in attendance; of these two were from Illinois, one from Nebraska, one from Missouri, all others being from Iowa libraries, one being a

library trustee. The occupancy of a fraternity house as a home for the instructors and students has proven to be a satisfactory arrangement.

The visiting lecturers added much to the value and interest of the course. Electra C. Doren, vice-dean of the Carnegie library school of Western Reserve university, Cleveland, Ohio, visited the school en route to the Portland A. L. A. conference and gave two lectures to the class, her subjects being Libraries and schools and Bad books. These lectures made a deep impression on the students because of the earnestness and thoroughness with which the subjects were presented. Bessie Sargent Smith, librarian of the Dubuque (Iowa) public library, gave two spirited and helpful talks on Book selection and Publishers and editions. Hale Douglas, librarian of the Grinnell (Iowa) college library, spoke on Buying out-of-the-way books. The visit of members of the commission to the school is always an enjoyable event to the class. This year all of the commissioners except one were present and spoke to the class. Pres. MacLean gave a delightful lecture on the Royal service of the librarian.

ALICE S. TYLER.

Wisconsin summer school

The eleventh annual session of the Wisconsin summer school for library training opened on May 1, and closed June 23. There were 20 students in attendance, most of them from Wisconsin public libraries.

The school was very fortunate this year in having for instructor in cataloging Miss Coddington, head cataloger of the University library, formerly of the Library of congress. Edna Lyman, of Oak Park, Ill., gave a course in children's work. M. E. Ahern, editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, gave three instructive lectures on the work of the leading public libraries and on librarianship. The other lectures were given by members of the Wisconsin staff.

H. E. LEGLER, Sec.

The Future of Library Schools

Melvil Dewey, director of libraries, New York state

Twenty-one years ago the Columbia university trustees, after considering the question during my first year, voted to establish the first training school for librarians. The usual doubts and fears were expressed by those who never think the time ripe for any new movement, but the period of experiment is now long past. Librarianship has won its place as a profession and the library school its place among institutions for professional training. Need of such training is now so fully recognized that no sane man would propose giving up the library school any more than he would normal schools for teachers or training schools for law, medicine and engineering.

But near the close of our second decade we have to face new questions, not as to existence but as to number, scope, location and cost. At the risk of seeming dogmatic I set down what seems to me the probable future of library training. Beginning with the simplest, we should have wherever practicable by means of traveling librarians, visitors or inspectors (as different states may call them) round tables, where for a day or two the librarians and assistants of a single locality meet a recognized authority for information and inspiration, to submit difficulties, ask questions, and get any help that an expert studying many libraries can give so well to a novice spending all his time in one.

For larger sections there should be a library institute lasting a week instead of two days and taught not by volunteers, many of whom have no special gift for teaching, but by those who have shown extraordinary qualities for this peculiar work. Leaders with these gifts should abandon all routine work and be available for institutes in different sections of their own states and if needed in adjoining states so that each might give his time and strength wholly to the highest work for which he was specially fitted.

Our summer schools will be maintained, increased in number and steadily improved. As for institutes, there should be traveling collections of books and appliances most needed for instruction and the faculty should be chosen with greatest care. The great majority of the thousands of librarians simply can not attend library school for one or more full years. Training and instruction given to them must be in institutes or in summer schools for about six weeks each year, for which it is easy to get leave of absence. As in the older summer schools in other subjects, the spasmodic and unattached schools, many of them started with the most unselfish motives, will die out when their work is better done by established institutions with faculty, equipment, endowment and experience which enables them to give students much more in the short six weeks of the course.

These summer schools, institutes and round tables, with the national, city and local library meetings and our professional journals, will do most of the work for the mass of librarians, and it is idle to decry these agencies because their standards are lower and their courses shorter than the schools for the few who are able to give one or two full years. Of these we need two types. Our oldest school has moved steadily for 20 years toward an ideal but is still far from its attainment. We need in English-speaking America three thoroly equipped graduate schools for the highest training. To cover the country satisfactorily one should be on the Atlantic seaboard, in Boston, Washington or preferably New York. One should be in Chicago as perhaps the best library center of all because within 1000 miles on all four sides are to be found the greatest number of new, rapidly developing, aggressive libraries. The third is needed on the Pacific coast to care for the immense territory west of the Rockies, and for this no location is so good as at the University of California, with all the libraries of San Francisco at its doors for study, and standing on the very shore of the Golden Gate, which will inevitably,

for centuries to come, be the great center point for an immense portion of the earth's surface. No recent news has been more gratifying than the enthusiastic assurance of Pres. Wheeler, Gov. Pardee, and several of the regents that a school creditable to the Golden state will be opened within a year or two at Berkeley. These three graduate schools should have equipment, faculty and endowment or support so complete that each will be easily recognized as the leader in its own great territory. Great as is modern development, and strong as is my faith that the next decade will show even greater progress than the past, I can not believe that there is room for more than these three schools in this first class. But between these and the summer schools there is a large field to which most American library schools will belong. The three graduate schools requiring a college degree for admission and at least two full years of hard work in the university will provide for qualified candidates time, money and purpose to fit themselves for the highest positions. But their graduates can man but a small percentage of American libraries. Even if their number were large enough the great majority of libraries could not pay salaries sufficient to secure their services. Either ninetenths of our libraries will be conducted by the untrained or there must be courses, open to well-qualified graduates of high schools who will give one year of earnest study to the best preparation for librarianship to be had in so short a time. These schools will develop in different sections of the country to meet the demand, the less satisfactory giving way to the stronger and better just as an inferior machine gradually drops out of the market as the public find they can get for the same money one that will do better work. We are paying the penalty of success. The earliest school, when its record showed calls for its graduates beyond any previous experience of professional schools, was a temptation to many to offer training without adequate facilities. Most of these proposals were abandoned be-

cause librarians have been so outspoken in asking for proper standards.

I do not forget that many of the larger libraries have training schools of their own. These are usually local in purpose and result, training simply for that one institution. If work grows broader and their students go out to other positions such classes might be included with the smaller library schools.

We are often asked as to the cost of a satisfactory training school. Not unfrequently we have found that some visionary librarian had tried to impress on some institution the idea that such a school would be not only self-supporting but a source of profit. It is not difficult to disabuse intelligent minds of so absurd a notion. Not a few have taken the initial steps for library training on the theory that the service of students in a local library would be a decided gain to the institution. As a fact these services are of no more value than the time required for competent supervision. The item of profit should be left wholly out of the question. Our minimum estimate for a creditable school is an endowment of \$200,000 to \$500,000, which at 5 per cent would yield \$10,000 to \$25,000 a year. This sum is trifling compared with that required to open a department of engineering or electricity, as an expensive plant is not required. Lecture and study rooms and a collection of models and appliances needed for instruction make the problem of equipment comparatively simple. A separate building is neither necessary nor desirable, for the most successful school must have its home in a well administered and growing library, the atmosphere of which is one great element of the course. The cost is salaries of a competent faculty. It is equally important that the library itself should have the right environment. So much of library training is practical and dependent on constant observation and study of other libraries that a school should be where it has ready access to many large and small libraries within a short distance. It is a poor substitute to be compelled as the oldest school has

been for many years to make long journeys which because of their expense must be made all too brief for the best results. It would be a great advantage if these visits could be made a few at a time instead of being massed in a single fortnight of the course.

A university atmosphere is highly desirable for the graduate schools and desirable also for the others, tho for them the right city and library are more important than a university. A school supported by the state should be in connection with the state university or in the metropolis and not at the state capital, except in rare instances like Boston where capital and metropolis coincide. Above all it should not be in the capitol building. Recent developments in all states are in the direction of multiplying offices, boards and commissions with inevitable pressure for rooms in the state house. Sooner or later the school will be a target for those impatient to inherit the space it occupies. Its opponents' question 'why a school is kept in the capitol any more for one profession than for another' sounds very plausible. The atmosphere of the capitol is quite the reverse of what would be chosen for a school. Finally, and most serious, the danger that the school may sooner or later be involved in politics makes it most unwise to locate it in the capitol. The state ought to support the training of professional librarians just as surely as it does that of professional teachers, but what school man would consent to have his normal school carried on in the office of the superintendent of public instruction in the capitol building? For five or six years it has been clear that the advantages of our own location were small compared with its disadvantages, and I have repeatedly expressed my willingness to see the original school transferred to a satisfactory university connection, much as I should dislike to part company with the work which has seemed to me the most important of all the library enterprises with which I have been associated. When asked by other states about establishing state library schools I have

strongly advised against locating in the capitol building and usually against the capital city. Many of these objections would disappear or be minimized if a state library had a wholly independent building. Of late years it has often been suggested that the school ought to go with the proposed national headquarters. Obviously there would be many practical advantages to both sides if one of the three graduate schools were very near the headquarters offices, but I feel more and more strongly that a graduate school should be in a university atmosphere, that its students should be mingling with other university graduates and should have all the facilities of a great university just as the professional and technical schools are usually best carried on as departments of a university and not as independent institutions. As in the other cases, large endowment or peculiar conditions might make it clear to the best judges that it was wise to have the school independent of a university, but the chances are ten to one that its natural home with other schools in the university atmosphere would prove best.

Library courses in schools and colleges are so closely allied to this professional training that they must be reckoned with. The tendency grows in normal schools, colleges and universities to offer courses in bibliography, books and reading, library science or some other form of our general subject. These must not be looked on as professional training. The courses in music in our best universities are not to make great performers or artists, but to give a broad and clearer comprehension of what music and art really are and to qualify people to enjoy and profit from it in future life. School library courses have three functions—to teach the students to use and care for their own private libraries to best advantage; to use and understand the methods of the school and other public libraries; to understand the modern library movement, and to be so sympathetically informed as to its objects and methods that each graduate

of the school may be better prepared to serve if necessary on library boards or committees or to coöperate actively with the library authorities in their community. In normal schools each teacher should have enough library training to qualify him to work effectively with the local librarian and to select books, care for them or supervise them in his own library.

This, briefly, is the future of library training which every earnest librarian should have in mind so that if opportunity offers he may help to establish or to encourage and develop every desirable agency whether it be round table, institute, summer school, library courses in other institutions, one-year course for high school graduates, or graduate school for the most thoro training of those fitted by nature and previous education to qualify for the highest positions.

Sept. 1, 1905.

The United States commissioner of education in his annual report says there are nine libraries in the United States that contain more than 300,000v. each, and 59 that have over 100,000 each. The North Atlantic states contain more than half the entire number of libraries enumerated, 3006 libraries, containing in the aggregate 27,805,980v. New York is at the head of the states, having 924 libraries, with 9,079,863v.; Massachusetts next, with 624 libraries and 7,166-994v., Pennsylvania follows with 491 libraries, containing 4,580,312v. These three states have nearly 30 per cent of the libraries and 40 per cent of the number of volumes reported for the whole country. Taking the country as a whole, there is one library containing at least 1000v. for every 11,000 of the population. Only those libraries containing 1000v. or over are considered. This of course does not represent all the libraries in the United States as there are a very large number of libraries scattered throughout the country that do not have 1000v. Many of them are in rural districts and their use very often far exceeds that of more pretentious libraries.

News from the Field

East

Mary H. Caswell, New York '04-05, has been appointed children's librarian in Waterville (Maine) public library.

J. C. Houghton, for 27 years librarian of the Lynn (Mass.) public library, died in that city July 26, at the age of 82 years.

Westport, Conn., has received a gift of \$20,000 from Morris K. Jesup of New York, to build a memorial library for the town.

Rebecca W. Wright, New York '05, has received an appointment as head of the art department at the Boston athenaeum.

The degree of Litt. D. was conferred on Louis N. Wilson, librarian of Clark university, by Tuft's college at the June commencement.

June R. Donnelly, for some time in the catalog department of the Cincinnati public library, has been elected instructor in the library school at Simmons college, Boston.

Mrs Bond of the Library Bureau, Boston, assisted by Miss Wiggin, instructor in Library economy at Simmons college, is to reorganize and recatalog the Public library of Dalton, Mass. The work began July 1, and will take several months.

C. W. Ayer, librarian of Public library, Cambridge, Mass., writes that the statement in the A. L. A. bulletin No. 17 [P. L. 10:362] that the bulletin of that library is for free distribution is an error. There is a charge of 25 cents a year to cover postage.

Pierpont Morgan has purchased and will present en bloc to the Wadsworth athenaeum of Hartford, Conn., the library of the late Dr Henry Barnard of that city. The library consists of about 10,000v., including 4500 school books. Some of the works are quite valuable.

Owing to the resignation of Hale K. Darling, William H. Dubois of Randolph has been appointed a member of

the Board of library commissioners of Vermont, and Edward M. Goddard, assistant state librarian, at present a member of the commission, has been designated as chairman of the board.

T. J. Kiernan, who has been a member of the staff of the Harvard college library for 50 years, received on May 2 a testimonial from a few of the many to whom he has given invaluable advice and assistance during his long term of office. The testimonial consisted of a handsome bronze box, containing a cheque for \$1286, and a letter with 100 signatures.

The discussion of the past year between various parts of the Yale alumni as to the preservation or destruction of the old library building erected before 1850 and regarded by many as the most beautiful building on the campus, has been ended by the decision to remove the old building and place the new wing of the Chittenden library on the site.

The report of the City library of Springfield, Mass., shows a year of progress. The distributing stations have increased from 195 to 246; 3569 cards were issued to persons never having used the library; home circulation was 346,543v.; 3801 pictures were loaned. The circulation of adult books not fiction has increased 30 per cent the past two years and fiction decreased 4.1 per cent.

Unless this savors of the "effete East," the Concord (N. H.) public library would say that on August 25 it celebrated its semi-centennial with features advertised by the local newspapers as follows:

The staff will wear the dress of 1850; the books displayed on the open shelf will be the favorites of 50 years ago; the writings of Concord authors will be shown by themselves; the main art exhibit will consist of the fine original sketches from which were made the illustrations for the recent two-volume History of Concord; side exhibits will comprise pictures of old-fashioned furniture and photographs of the library's summer branches; an interesting souvenir bookmark will be presented to borrowers; the August additions to the library will go into circulation and a printed list of the same will be

given to customers; new supplements of all the books added to the library during the last 10 years have just been published and these will go on sale for the first time.

The building was thronged all day, and the celebration was both merry and full of meaning.

Central Atlantic

Mary L. Armstrong, New York '04-'05, has been appointed assistant in Vassar college library.

Edith S. Wade, New York '02, has been appointed assistant in the Troy (N. Y.) public library.

Eugenia M. Henry, New York '04-'05, was assistant at Chautauqua summer school for library training.

William H. Alexander, New York '04-'05, has been appointed assistant in the New York state library.

Marjory L. Gilson, New York '05, has been appointed to take charge of the reading-room in the Free public library of Newark, N. J.

Annie S. Dresser, New York '04-'05, spent the summer in classifying and cataloging the public library at West Stockbridge, Mass.

Alice I. Hazeltine, New York '01-'02, has resigned from the Buffalo public library and become librarian of the Carnegie library at Oil City, Pa.

Asa Wynkoop, New York '05, has been appointed sub-inspector of libraries in New York state in place of W. F. Yust, who resigned to take charge of the Louisville (Ky.) free public library.

Felix Neuman of the Library of congress has been engaged to superintend the proper arrangement of the Von Ranke collection of material on European history in the library of Syracuse university.

Jane Brotherton has resigned her position as a cataloger at the Library of congress to accept the position of librarian of the Brumback library of Van Wert county, Ohio. She entered upon her new duties September 1.

J. Pierpont Morgan has built a detached library adjacent to his New York house. It will undoubtedly be one of the most beautiful private libraries in the world. The Library Bureau will put in the entire interior finish and the furniture.

Mary L. Davis, who resigned from Pratt institute library, Brooklyn, in 1904, has been elected librarian of the Public library at Troy, N. Y. Miss Davis has been instructor at Chautauqua library school for the past two years. She spent last winter in Florence, Italy.

The ninth annual report of the Carnegie library of Pittsburg is a résumé of the growth of the library for the past decade. The growth of the activities of the library for the past year, though greatly hampered by the building operations, shows substantial increase. The circulation was 645,093v.; new registration 9975; 165,580v. were used in the reference room; 34,517v. were classified and cataloged during the year.

The Public library at Camden, N. J., kept bulletins before the public all summer, of what was called the Can't-get-away outing club. These were varied with interesting lists and announcements, and various tours via books were suggested, as Tour No. 1, The Hudson river from ocean to source, Tour No. 2, Camps and tramps in the Adirondacks. There were 11 tours in all to be taken—all most attractive. William H. Ketler, the librarian, reports the experiment a great success. It reduced the per cent of fiction reading quite perceptibly.

The ninth annual report of the Canastota (N. Y.) public library shows a circulation of 12,995v.; added this year 523v.; total number in the library 4543v. In the reading-rooms is a collection of 59 of the best periodicals, 35 of which are given and 24 subscribed for. The reference room has been a very important feature, having been of service to students from neighboring villages, as well as a great many of the townspeople. Two librarians have been kept very busy helping in various ways and

in trying to make the library a bright and interesting spot all of the 298 days which it was open last year.

The Frederick Ferris Thompson memorial library building was formally presented to Vassar college June 12, 1905. This building is the gift of Mrs Mary Clark Thompson in memory of her husband, who was a trustee of the college from 1880 to 1899 and one of its chief benefactors. The building is a stately structure in the academic style of architecture. It is built entirely of stone, the exterior being of Germantown granite, the trimmings and the interior of Indiana limestone. The tapestries in Memorial hall, the stained glass window in the west wing, and the furnishings throughout were given with the building by Mrs Thompson.

The presentation ceremonies were held in the library building. Clark Williams, a nephew of Mrs Thompson, made the formal presentation speech, and the library building was accepted in behalf of the trustees of the college by Pres. Taylor. The address of the occasion was given by Hamilton W. Mabie.

The Binghamton public library submits its first annual report for the year ending June 30, 1905. This is an actual "year" of eight months, two weeks since the library was opened to the public for the issue of books. The Binghamton public is the successor of the old City school library, and the initial year was one of reorganization, readjustment, recataloging and expansion. Andrew Carnegie gave \$75,000 for the new building.

Volumes added during the year 4524; total in library 14,376; circulation (eight months, two weeks) for home use 85,248v.; maintained in the assembly hall, a free lecture course in applied science and history; average attendance, chiefly men, 250. Children's weekly story hour a popular feature. Cards issued (in eight months, two weeks) to 7333 borrowers.

Committee rooms in constant use through the winter by clubs and societies. A room assigned to high school

pupils for study and reference work. Steady growth in use of library for reference work. Much work done with and for schools.

Bulletins issued on timely topics and sent, according to subject, to schools, shops, factories, labor unions and churches.

Special emphasis (in the purchase of books and the direction of the lecture course) laid on work for men—craftsmen, mechanics, producers. This attitude on the part of the library has been heartily appreciated, the labor unions having united in contributing to the library's Citizens' book fund, and being numbered among the library's most loyal supporters.

Central

Charles G. Matthews, New York '04-05, has returned to his position in the library of Ohio university.

Mary E. Hawley of the John Crerar library is spending a four months' leave of absence in Europe.

The new library at Council Bluffs, Iowa, was dedicated September 12 with appropriate ceremonies.

Thomas E. Edison will build a library for Milan, Ohio, his boyhood home. The Edison homestead will be the site.

Helen J. Stearns, Western Reserve '05, returned from Germany September 18, to take a position in the Cleveland public library.

Frances H. Lynch, Western Reserve '05, has been appointed assistant and cataloger in the new Carnegie library at Canton, Ohio.

Matthew Hale Douglass, librarian of Iowa college, Grinnell, Iowa, was married June 25, to Minnie Hall Griswold at Lexington, Neb.

The Carnegie library of South Brooklyn, Ohio, was formally opened July 13, 1905. Frances E. Root, Western Reserve '05, has been appointed librarian.

Jean Hawkins, librarian of Eau Claire, Wis., has resigned her position, as has also Maud Durlin, assistant librarian.

The latter will enter Pratt institute library school.

Zana K. Miller, Western Reserve '05, has been appointed assistant to the Wisconsin library commission and has been engaged in organizing work since July.

Eliza E. Townsend, Western Reserve '05, formerly of the Keokuk (Iowa) public library, has been appointed to a position in Hatch library, Western Reserve university, Cleveland, Ohio.

Emily Turner, for five years in charge of the Public library of Oshkosh, Wis., has resigned her position for a period of rest and study. Miss Templeton of Omaha has been elected to succeed Miss Turner.

A new field of activity seems to be opening up to the library worker. Hortense Foglesong, Western Reserve '05, has been engaged to classify and catalog the office collections of several large manufacturing firms in Cleveland.

Ernest James Reece and Carl P. Vitz, both of Western Reserve '05, will return from Europe in October. Mr Reece has lately been appointed to the reference department and Mr Vitz to the order department of the Cleveland public library.

Mary Mills of the John Crerar library, Chicago, resigned her position in June and was married to William Alisson of Franklin, Ind. Ada Patten, Eleanor Roper and Bessie Baldwin of the John Crerar library have also resigned their positions.

Richard Lavelle has been appointed librarian of the Pillsbury library, a branch of the Minneapolis public library. The title of assistant librarian has been given to Katharine Patton, formerly at the head of the art department, now in charge of the Athenaeum library.

The 1904 report of the Cleveland library shows 236,138v. on the shelves and a circulation of 1,176,196v. The Woodland branch library, opened the past year, is shown in various views, a beautiful library. The various depart-

ments reporting through their chiefs show gratifying growth.

Mrs Frances C. D. Jermain of Toledo, Ohio, died suddenly of heart failure, August 21, at her home in that city, age 76 years. Mrs Jermain resigned her position as librarian of the Toledo public library two years ago, after a continuous service of 24 years. She was long counted among the strong librarians of her day, and was held in high esteem by the citizens of Toledo.

The thirty-second annual report of the Indianapolis public library, 1904-05, gives number of books added, 6864, making a total of 111,572v.; issued for home use 293,135v. Of this number 98,388 were issued from branches and delivery stations, and 24,710 through the public schools.

The Public library now consists of the main library, eight branches and 13 delivery stations—eight of them are in the branch libraries.

Sophie Mery, for several years at the head of the children's room in the Toledo public library, died Sept. 10, 1905. Miss Mery was well known in Ohio, and was one of the most successful children's librarians in the country. She inaugurated that work in the Toledo public library, and it attained most successful conditions under her direction. She was ill for the past two years, due to overwork. Her many fine qualities of head and heart endeared her to a large circle of friends who count her death a loss.

Provision for establishing a public library pension fund and the system of its administration has been made by the Chicago library board. An election will be held October 2, at which two pension trustees will be chosen from among the employees of the library, one library director will be chosen for a third member and the president and secretary of the board will be ex-officio members.

One-half of all fines collected from borrowers who retain books over time will be set aside as a basis for the pen-

sion fund. All employees of the library may become beneficiaries under the pension act, and a small portion of the salary of each, to be determined later, will be retained and added to the fund.

In Fairbury, Ill., a town of about 3500 population, new interest is felt in library matters because of a beautiful library building with a well-selected collection of books recently opened to the public.

The building, costing about \$25,000, is made of the best material throughout, and is beautifully furnished. Every part is well lighted, the floor is covered with cork carpet, and at doors and windows are the best of screens.

This carefully planned gift is a memorial built by Mrs L. B. Dominy, in memory of her husband and daughter. Many of the books were given by the same family. The A. L. A. catalog was made the basis of the selection. The women's clubs and other citizens of Fairbury have contributed valuable books, and over 1000 books were transferred from the school library. The whole collection of over 3000v. has been fully cataloged and the library organized by Mary E. Bevans.

The children are much interested in their own bright, attractive room which contains about 700v.

Besides the children's and reference rooms, the stack room and room for general reading, there are two well-lighted rooms in the basement. It is hoped that a free kindergarten may be held in one of these rooms.

Throughout the many months of work since the building was begun the thought has been to form a center from which real pleasure and a broader, truer life may reach to every part of the community.

The library building given to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, by Mr Carnegie, was dedicated June 3, 1905. The dedicatory exercises were held in the library building, and a special program was prepared and addresses were made by Mayor Austin, Miss Tyler of the library commission and Dr E. R. Burkhalter. The afternoon program was

given for the children. It consisted of songs, a brief talk and readings from Kipling, Browning, Macdonald and Scott, by Mary S. Everets of the State university of Iowa. The building was crowded both at the afternoon and evening meetings.

The building is one of the best in the middle west. The exterior is of mortled light buff brick with trimmings of Bedford stone. The cost, \$75,000, included the complete building, plumbing, wiring, electric fixtures, architects' fees and superintendent's salary. It is renaissance in style with dignified lines. The needs of the library were kept in mind by the architects, Josselyn & Taylor of Cedar Rapids, who were in constant consultation with the library board and the librarian, Harriet A. Wood. The furniture was designed specially by the Library Bureau, and not only meets the needs of the library but harmonizes with the interior finish.

A number of gifts were presented at the dedication, consisting of a large number of books and several pictures for the children's room. Various organizations assisted not only by their presence but by gifts. For instance, the Princeton club filled a corner of the study room with books by Princeton men as well as with various photographs and souvenirs, and the whole was presided over by the Princeton tiger.

The president of the board, Mrs C. D. VanVechten, has been untiring in her interest and work for the library since its founding in 1897. Regret was expressed at her absence at the dedication as she was unable to appear because of ill health. F. F. Dawley, vice-president of the library board and a close second to Mrs VanVechten in interest and effort, presided at both sessions.

West

Lillian Mirick of Dryden, N. Y., has been appointed public librarian at Fargo, N. D.

Mrs J. A. Thompson has been appointed librarian of the Carnegie library at Chickasha, I. T.

Katherine B. Judson, New York '04-05,

has been appointed librarian of the Carnegie library at Kalispell, Mont.

One Mary Imhoff, New York '98, was instructor at the Wisconsin summer school for library training, Madison. She is at present organizing the Hearst library at Anaconda, Mont.

Joseph W. Chapman, for 14 years librarian of Pueblo, Colo., has resigned his position there for the improvement of his health. The library board and the press express their realization of the loss incurred by Mr Chapman's resignation. Mary L. Strong, for six years assistant librarian, has been elected librarian.

South

Warren L. Hoagland, who was appointed assistant librarian of St Louis public library in May, has resigned on account of the climate of St Louis and the long hours of the library affecting his health.

William Beer, librarian of New Orleans, has been for several months in Europe. His itinerary includes a visit to Prof. Pais, the celebrated historian; Rome, to see the geographical treasures of the Vatican, and the ecclesiastical correspondence in the library of the Propaganda; Florence, for the Biblioteca Laurenzia Medicana under the guidance of its librarian, Prof. Guido Biagi, whose lectures in English on library subjects at the Scientific and Library congresses at St Louis were the subject of much praise; the libraries of Venice, Triest, Milan, Genoa, Turin, Geneva, Lyons; Lorient for its interest as the home of the Compagnie des Indes Occidentales, which for many years possessed the monopoly of trade with Louisiana, and was to the end of the French domination the port of principal communication between France and Louisiana.

In Paris he hopes to find documents throwing light on the appeals from the decisions of the Conseil General, the highest law court of the colony, and to obtain from the library of the Arsenal facsimiles of a manuscript containing rude drawings of New Orleans in 1728.

Foreign

Mrs von Rottenberg, wife of Dr von Rottenberg, and daughter of W. W. Phelps, formerly United States minister to England, has bought the library of Prof. Mommsen, and presented it to Bonn university.

A movement has started under the direction of Richard Guenther, United States consul to Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, to add an American section to the Municipal library of that city. A request for donations of publications is sent out by Consul Guenther.

Baillies institution, a fine reference library in Glasgow, of 20,938v., has been made the custodian of the Glasgow archaeological society, by which arrangement the books and antiquities of the latter will be made accessible to the general public.

To John Pink, librarian of the Public library in Cambridge, England, belongs the honor of being the oldest active librarian in England. For 50 years he has been at the head of the Cambridge public library, one of the best of its kind. He has recently received an illuminated address from the library committee in recognition of his services to the town.

Wanted—Position as librarian, reference librarian or cataloger. Address Miss Gorham, Cataloging department, New York public library.

Wanted—Executive library position by a college graduate. Have had experience as librarian of two small libraries (one college and one government). References as to character and ability. Address R. M. B., 909 T St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

For distribution—Dr Myron Metzenbaum has deposited with the Cleveland public library copies of his pamphlet on Radium, radioactive substances, and aluminum, third edition, 1905, for distribution to any library which may care to have it. Copies will be sent on application to Public library, Cleveland, Ohio.

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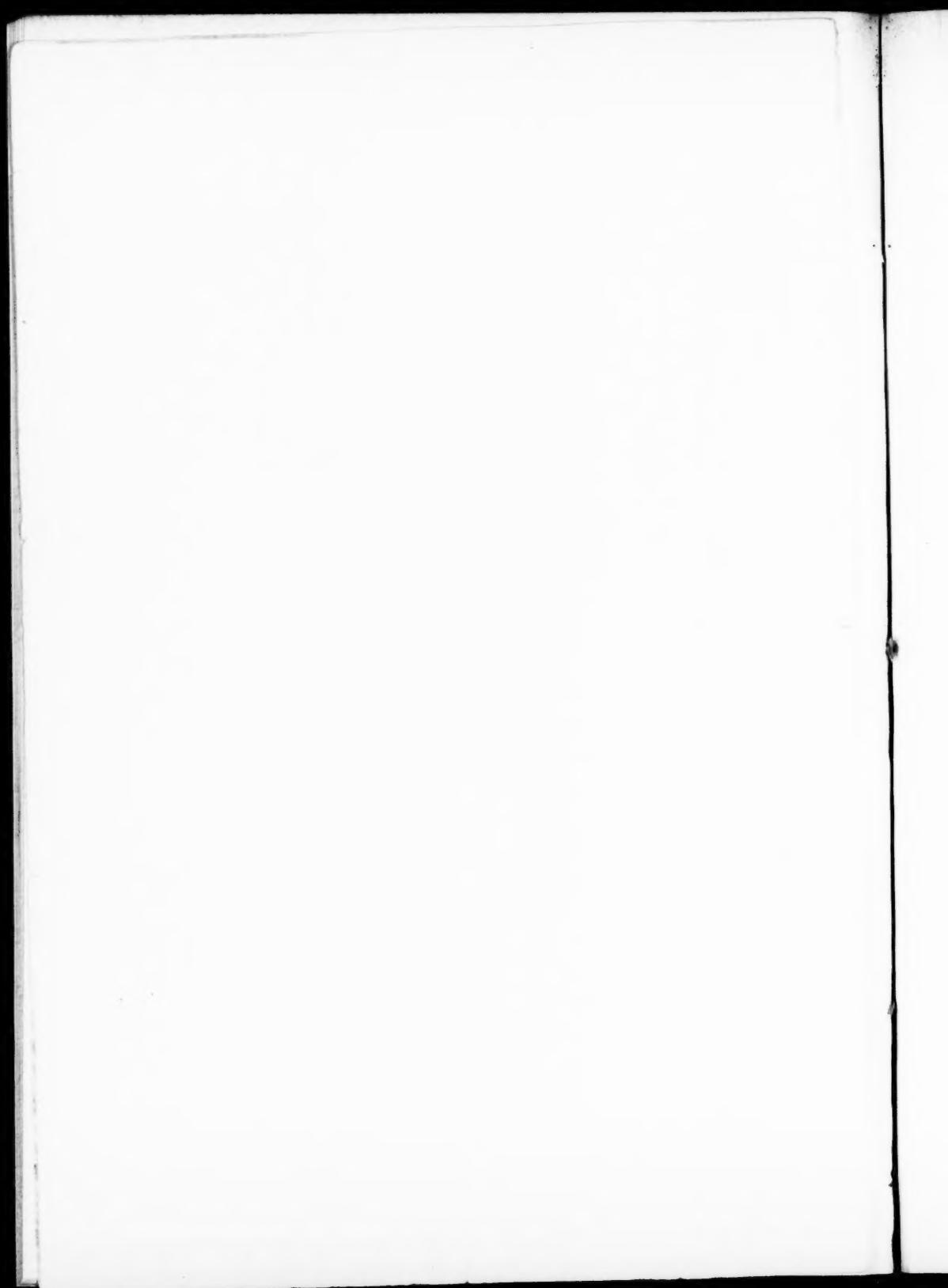
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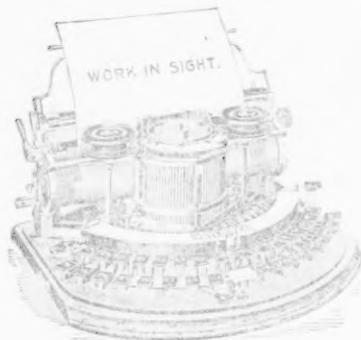
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